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# THE TIMES

No 64,045

FRIDAY JUNE 14 1991

40p

Communists snubbed with vote to change Leningrad to St Petersburg

## Yeltsin races to poll triumph

### Russian leader to meet Bush

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

BORIS Yeltsin's supporters yesterday claimed outright victory in Russian elections that produced a clean sweep for democrats over the communists. The newly-elected leader will meet President Bush in Washington next week.

Mr Yeltsin beat his closest rival by at least 30 percentage points in the race to become Russia's first democratically-elected president. The people of Leningrad further rebuffed the communist party with a vote to revert to the city's original name of St Petersburg.

The democrat mayors of Moscow and Leningrad both easily retained their posts, and the radicals scored another victory when the Leningrad historian Yuri Afanasyev beat a member of the Russian communist party leadership to take a seat in parliament.

Although the results of the presidential election will not be officially declared until Monday, a spokesman for the electoral commission said: "We can now say with certainty that a second round will not be necessary."

Mr Yeltsin's victory and the Leningrad vote were seen as a decisive rejection of seven decades of communist rule. Some analysts believed that President Gorbachev would now be forced to embark on more radical reforms. Sweep-

ing changes in Moscow's administrative structure are expected to be announced today after the re-election of Gavril Popov as mayor. Mr Popov said last night that the elections, which also saw Anatoli Sobchak returned as mayor of Leningrad, had been "a great event in Russian history and brought Russia into the family of civilised nations which choose their leaders by direct popular elections".

Announcing Mr Yeltsin's forthcoming visit to Washington, the White House also welcomed the switch to free elections. Officials took pains to praise the process rather than the man to avoid offending or undermining President Gorbachev, and suggested that Mr Bush would be meeting Mr Yeltsin primarily to show his support for Soviet democracy.

The election was a "historic step for the Russian people and the Soviet Union", Martin Fitzwater, the presidential spokesman, said. "It certifies the commitment of the Soviet leadership and its people towards establishing a political system that is democratic and pluralistic."

Mr Fitzwater also hinted that Mr Bush and Mr Gorbachev may meet privately after the Group of Seven economic summit next month. John Major announced in the Commons yesterday that the long-awaited invitation to the Soviet leader to come to London had now been extended. Mr Gorbachev will arrive on the morning of July 17, the day the summit ends, and have a working meeting and lunch with the seven leaders. He will then remain for a further day for talks with Mr Major.

Mr Yeltsin won his biggest majorities in the urban centres of the Urals and in Moscow and Leningrad, where he won 70 per cent of the vote. In his home city of Sverdlovsk, he gained 90 per cent. Mr Ryzhkov received consistently around 20 per cent, while the other four candidates lagged far behind. Mr Yeltsin's only recorded loss by last night was in Kyzyl, close to the Chinese border, where he was four points behind Mr Ryzhkov.

Mr Yeltsin did well even in the so-called "autonomies" which are populated largely by non-Russian ethnic groups. These regions had been expected to oppose him because of his supposed sympathy for Russian nationalism. Only in the former Tatar autonomous republic did the turnout fall below the 50 per



Victory salute: Boris Yeltsin, Russia's first democratically elected president

## Major to break with Thatcher line today

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN Major is today expected to signal a firm break with his predecessor, Margaret Thatcher, on European policy. In a speech to Welsh Conservatives in Swansea, Mr Major will insist on his belief that Britain's future lies in wholehearted co-operation within the European Community.

Mr Major was said by friends last night to be ready to make the psychological break. Urged on by senior colleagues, he has now determined that he can no longer allow the possible reactions of Mrs Thatcher, or those who cherish the memory of her leadership, to affect his conduct as prime minister and that he must "do his own thing" regardless of the consequences.

At ten points behind Labour in the opinion polls, many of his colleagues feel that he no longer has any choice but must confirm his own authority. There is a strong belief within the cabinet that the hard Euro-sceptics have gone too far, and that Mr Major can now afford to dare them to do their worst. Yesterday Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, in a speech to the Foreign Press Association, paid tribute to Mr Major for the "remarkable job" he had done in six months as Tory leader. He also claimed that the Euro-critics' bubble had burst.

Mr Major was last night encouraged to be bold as Tory MPs demonstrated their anger with the critics who have been sniping at the leadership on Europe and other issues. At a meeting of the backbench 1922 committee, Michael Jopling, the former chief whip, was given what some MPs called one of the longest desk-

banging ovations for years, after he declared that the party fully backed the line Mr Major and Norman Lamont, the chancellor, were taking to get the best deal they could for Britain in Europe.

Mr Jopling did not name names, but MPs had little doubt that Nicholas Ridley, the former environment secretary who this week urged Mr Major not to gag Mrs Thatcher, was his target when he said that former ministers should show the sort of support for the government which they had expected when in office. Mr Jopling added that those who were retiring at the

next election should be particularly careful not to damage Tory prospects.

Mr Major yesterday ducked a Commons question from Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, on whether he believed in the principle of a single currency even if he would resist its imposition on Britain. The prime minister also ignored other opportunities to hit back at the Bruges group. Tory MPs believed this was because he wished to retain the maximum impact for today's speech.

Lynch party, page 16  
Leading article, page 19

## Howard welcomes jobless 'slowdown'

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

MICHAEL Howard, the employment secretary, yesterday welcomed what he said was a slowdown in the rise in unemployment.

He announced that the seasonally adjusted figure had risen for the 14th consecutive month to 2.24 million. He was immediately attacked by Labour, but comparisons with the recession of the early 1980s suggest that ministers have grounds for their guarded optimism.

The latest increase provoked stormy exchanges in the Commons, with John Major, the prime minister, accusing Labour of using the unemployed as "political pawns." Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, said that the

latest rise was a direct result of government policies. He said that "rising unemployment and deep recession provide the most accurate definition of Majorism".

Mr Major hit back by saying that under the Conservatives, there had been a great increase in the number of people in work and as inflation fell that would again be the case. To Labour jeers, he taunted Mr Kinnock: "You should stop using the unemployed as political pawns."

The government's cautious judgment about some Continued on page 24, col 5

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Average earnings, page 25  
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## World group will develop successor to Concorde

FROM HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT, IN PARIS

SEVEN of the world's most technically advanced nations are joining forces to design the first "global aircraft", a supersonic successor to Concorde which will be capable of carrying 250 passengers at twice the speed of sound over 6,000 miles.

Research has shown that most of the problems caused by sonic boom and exhaust gases can now be overcome by the use of sophisticated aerodynamic techniques and new thermoplastic materials, and it is hoped that the first aircraft could be in service by 2005. The cost of development, however, is likely to exceed £5 billion, and Britain, France, Italy, Germany, Japan, the Soviet Union and the United States have agreed to pool expertise in producing a single design, which would have a supersonic monopoly in the next decade.

Although the new aircraft will fly at about the same speed as Concorde - 1,500 mph - its greater range will enable lucrative trans-Pacific routes, such as Los Angeles to Tokyo, to be flown in 4 hours 18 minutes, instead of the present, subsonic, time of 10 hours 18 minutes.

But the plans, which have now reached an advanced stage, break both the EC's policy on competition and the strict US anti-trust laws. Boeing and McDonnell Douglas, America's two biggest aircraft manufacturers, who are closely linked in the design work for the new plane, admit that if they are to be allowed to collude formally in the production of a new supersonic transport, new anti-trust legislation will almost certainly be needed.

With many of Europe's aerospace companies, including British Aerospace and Rolls-Royce, now openly co-operating on the design of a Concorde successor, worrying rumours have already been heard from Brussels.

Ironically the manufacturers are to ask the EC for cash for further research and, as the Paris Air Show opened yesterday, it became clear that within the next few years ever-closer links between the world's aerospace manufacturers is inevitable. Even the "British" success, the four-

engined 146 regional jet, has almost half its parts made in the US, China and India, and the company is actively seeking further partners.

The American business-jet maker, Gulfstream, said yesterday that it is to build three prototype, small, supersonic, business aircraft jointly with the Russian military giant, Sukhoi, and Airbus Industrie has not ruled out co-operation with the Japanese, or even arch-rivals in America, in developing new civil aircraft.

The long-term success of the Concorde's successor will depend on the size of the eventual market, currently estimated at between 500 and 1,000 aircraft, each with a lifespan of well over 25 years.

Aerospatiale, the French company which first began serious research into the project in 1989, is convinced that even that will not be sufficient to allow two competing designs. They are now preparing a detailed argument, together with leading industrialists from all its new partners, to put before politicians and lawyers in an effort to ensure that the global aircraft concept is not killed off by bureaucracy before it even flies.

## Hanson sells assets secretly

By ANGELA MACKEY

HANSON plc, the industrial conglomerate stalking ICI, orchestrated a secret restructuring in 1989 involving the internal sale and purchase of assets worth £9.5 billion.

The assets, mostly held by subsidiaries incorporated in tax-free havens such as Panama and Bermuda, include Imperial Tobacco and SCM Chemicals as well as some of Hanson's £6 billion acquisitions fund. Martin Taylor, one of Hanson's vice-chairmen, said the group did not tell shareholders because the changes did not affect the company's balance sheet.

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### TODAY IN THE TIMES

#### GBHATION?

Derek Hatton, in London for "a bit of business", tells Kate Muir that GBH has been done unto him by Alan Bleasdale Page 16

#### IN THE GALLERY

Matisse (among other Fauves) provides a suitable showcase for the Royal Academy's new Sackler Gallery Page 17

#### HOW IS THAT?

What's not cricket? The first poem about the game (1706), featured village green acrimony. Philip Howard yorks a cliché Page 18

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**Tory debt**  
The Conservative party is £5 million in debt, largely because of spending on the modernisation of its headquarters and the cost of publicity campaigns. Page 24

**Maxwell move**  
Robert Maxwell is today expected to announce the sale of shares in Derby County Football Club, clearing the way for him to take over Tottenham Hotspur. Page 40

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## US admits misgivings over Kuwait regime

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

WASHINGTON has finally admitted its unhappiness with the conduct of Kuwait's restored rulers. James Baker, the American Secretary of State, has publicly described the Kuwaiti government as not "the optimum regime".

American officials have privately expressed concern about Kuwaiti shortcomings since the Iraqis were driven from the emirate four months

ago, but they have not done so publicly until this week.

The US administration had not wanted to risk tarnishing its Gulf victory by openly denouncing Kuwaiti actions, including treatment of Palestinians and alleged collaborators. The reaction was to claim that rights abuses could not be substantiated.

US policy, page 14

## Bringing a £40,000 bank windfall to account

By RAY CLANCY

SHELLY Yeoh was surprised to find herself £40,000 richer than she had thought when she checked her bank account. Some time later, Barclays, finding itself £40,000 poorer, realised it had made a mistake. By then, however, Mrs Yeoh had withdrawn her windfall and yesterday the bank, unable to trace her, took action.

"We have served a writ by way of an advert in a newspaper because we have been unable to trace the customer at her last given address," the bank said. "We are anxious to recover the money which was credited by mistake."

The legal notice in the *Islington Gazette*, a north London weekly newspaper, calls on Mrs Yeoh to contact her bankers or their solicitor within seven days. It gives notice that

legal action has started in the High Court to recover the £40,000, plus interest, and that she is required to produce a list of her assets, details of any bank or building society accounts and details of her husband's financial affairs.

Should Mrs Yeoh, last heard of at Melgund Road, Highbury, north London, read this article, Barclays would be grateful if she would pay the money back (with interest, please).

The money was credited to the account at Holloway business centre in June last year. In Melgund Road, neighbours said last night that Mrs Yeoh had not been seen for some time. They understood that she and her husband were Chinese.

Instances of banks making errors in customers' accounts have not fallen, despite pressure from the banking ombudsman. They account for 9.6 per

cent of complaints - though these are not usually from people who have received a little extra. In his last annual report published in December 1990, Laurence Shurman, the ombudsman, said the use of computers to transfer money has greatly increased errors. The two main reasons for mistakes are a salary cheque being wrongly credited or a clerical error by the bank's staff.

However, if customers fail to keep an eye on their accounts and have to repay money that was not their own, plus interest, it is their own fault, according to the British Bankers Association. The Consumer Association said that the legal position is that the banks are acting as agents and the customer is not entitled to money paid into their account in error.

"It is impossible to generalise in these cases. There are no set rules,"

Mr Shurman said when his report was published. "If my bank put an extra £1 million into my account I would have no excuse if I booked a trip on Concorde and went round the world because I don't have £1 million and I am never likely to receive a cheque that size."

"But I can visualise a person being paid money into his account which does not alter his lifestyle and which he genuinely did not notice. If the bank failed to act within a reasonable time to correct the mistake then a judgement in favour of the client could be necessary."

● Campaign launch: Barclays yesterday launched a £100,000 advertising campaign to improve its customer-friendly image after recent criticism of high street banks for not passing on recent interest rate cuts to small business customers.

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# Labour aims to dispel polling confusion as Walton writ is moved



Mahmood: "Single job lost is one too many"

By RONALD FAUX

THE battle royal between left and right wings of the Labour party in Liverpool began in earnest yesterday when the writ was moved by Labour for the Walton by-election on July 4. With schools disrupted, rubbish piling up in the streets because of an overtime ban by the cleansing department, and Liverpool council seeking to make one thousand of its employees redundant, heightening the antagonism between broad left and moderate Labour councillors, the campaign promises to be a bitter one.

The by-election was caused by the death of Eric Hefter, the left-wing MP who increased his majority last time to 23,253. The Walton Real Labour candidate is Lesley Mahmood, a Liverpool

councillor recently expelled from the Labour party for defying the party whip on the poll tax. A Militant supporter, she yesterday attacked the moderate Labour leadership on the council for seeking to add to the city's unemployment misery by 1,000 redundancies in the council workforce. "Unemployment is still the scourge in Liverpool and a single job lost is one too many. Fifty thousand jobs have gone in the last ten years and I am adamantly against these plans for compulsory redundancies that will blight the lives of hundreds of families in Walton. How dare John Major attack Liverpool people for defending their jobs? The price they are paying is in poverty, social problems and boredom," she told a press conference launching her campaign.

The Labour party showed a clear

determination to distance itself from the broad left yesterday and avoid any confusion in voters' minds about who was the genuine Labour candidate.

Jack Cunningham, Labour's campaign co-ordinator, set the tone with a denunciation of Mrs Mahmood. Shortly after the writ was moved, he told a Westminster news conference: "There is a dishonest Militant candidate in Walton who is trying to usurp the Labour party's good name and reputation. It is a deplorable con trick which we intend to expose throughout this campaign." The people of Walton, he said, had an honest chance to face the real hope for the future by electing Peter Kilfoyle, the only Labour candidate in Walton.

David Blunkett, shadow local government minister, launched the Labour

campaign in Liverpool, adding to the onslaught against the broad left attempt to take the seat. "Those masquerading as the friends of the people behind Lesley Mahmood are engaged in a dangerous and cynical deception," he said. "They promise salvation without the means to deliver it and denigrate those seeking to keep Liverpool afloat pending the election of a Labour government."

The Conservative who is to fight the Labour stronghold is Berkeley Greenwood, aged 26, an economics graduate working for parliamentary consultants in London. The prime minister added his attack on Labour in Liverpool yesterday. During Commons question time John Major cited the city's council as an example of how Labour worked at local level. He quoted Keava Coombes, the

authority's former Labour leader, as saying that Liverpool council's problems were not down to resources. It cost four times more to pick up a piece of litter in Liverpool as it did in other areas. "That is Labour government at work at local level," Mr Major said.

Malcolm Thornton, Conservative MP for Crosby, said the Liverpool council had admitted to lying about figures and spending £1 million more on one contract than was necessary. This was not the work of Militant but of the so-called moderate Labour party.

In an earlier attack on the Liverpool council, Mr Major said: "Whether the Labour council is far left or moderate it has done that great city no favours and neither would a Labour government do this country any favours."

## Ministers take hope from lower increase in unemployment

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

UNEMPLOYMENT rose again last month to almost 2.25 million. The rise was the lowest monthly increase this year, however, allowing the government to suggest that the rate of increase in the numbers out of work may be slowing.

The seasonally adjusted figure, usually regarded as the most accurate guide to the trend in unemployment, rose by 70,600 in May to 2,244,000. It was the 14th consecutive increase since unemployment started to rise again in March last year after a run of 44 monthly falls.

Even so, the increase last month was the highest rise for May since comparable records began in 1971, and more people are now out of work than at any time since June 1988.

The unemployment rate now stands at 7.9 per cent. On a standardised basis, unemployment in Britain is now higher than the European average, and the employment department yesterday confirmed an analysis first carried

out by *The Times* in March that unemployment is now rising faster in Britain than anywhere else in the EC.

Unadjusted unemployment, the actual number of people out of work in the UK, rose by 15,329 in May to 2,213,784. The lower increase last month pushed the average rise for the three months to

120,000.

As well as the lower increase in unemployment, other figures released by the government yesterday were guardedly taken by ministers as possible signs of a better outlook on unemployment.

For instance, unemployment flows - the number of people moving in and out of employment - looked better. The number of people who joined the unemployment register in May was 334,700, noticeably fewer than the 359,200 in April. The number leaving the register was up from 298,100 in April to 318,100.

Vacancies, however, were again down. The number of vacancies at government-run Jobcentres - about a third of all job vacancies - stood at 110,600, down from 125,100 in April.

● LEC refrigeration of Bognor Regis, West Sussex, the country's leading refrigerator maker, is laying off 180 temporary workers from next Friday because of the recession.

May to 88,100. Since unemployment started to rise it has gone up by 637,600.

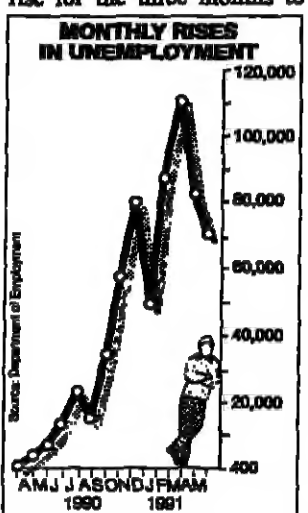
Unemployment rose in all regions of the UK last month, although there were some indications in the figures that the rate of increase in unemployment in the southern parts of Britain is slowing. However, unemployment in the South-East still jumped by 25,100, which is more than a third of the total rise for the whole of the UK. In Scotland, unemployment is at its highest since it started rising in October.

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Minister's welcome, page 1



We have become a gardener: Mrs Thatcher dropping broad hints as she opened the centre in Enfield yesterday

## Thatcher the gardener points the way

By ALICE THOMSON

MARGARET Thatcher told 200 gardening enthusiasts and industrialists over lunch yesterday that the gardening industry could offer a solution to unemployment by providing more jobs. As a nation of gardeners, the British should be producing their own plants rather than looking to Europe.

While ostensibly refusing to answer questions on Europe and John Major at the opening of the National Garden Centre at Capel Manor, Enfield, north London, Mrs Thatcher chose the theme of gardening

to provide "broad hints" on the direction she would like to see Britain take in the 90s.

One question she used to be asked in her early years as prime minister was, she said, "Where will the new jobs come from?" The gardening industry had become one of the flourishing opportunities for many young people.

She also said she had seen the balance of payments deficit earlier in the week. "If you look at the labels of where the plants are from, we import more than we export from

countries whose climates are very similar to ours."

"I am dropping broad hints," she said. Farmers were very good at producing surplus food; they might find a new market in plants, so that they could be a surplus rather than a deficit.

On a guided tour of the centre she refused to answer questions on whether she had become a Trappist nun, but spoke enthusiastically about gardening as she picked her way through the snapdragons. The centre, which is a training

school, had already given many young people the chance to learn gardening.

She now had a very small garden but liked to garden whenever she had the time. "Gardens are not made for sitting in the shade; you have to get down on your knees," she said.

Ken Livingstone, MP for Brent North, said: "She would have made a wonderful gardener and I regret that she did not. I don't think they'll be muzzling her on gardening yet."

## Woman jailed for Iraq arms deal plot

By RAY CLANCY

JEANINE Speckman, the business executive found guilty with her managing director of trying illegally to export nuclear detonating devices to Iraq, was yesterday jailed for 18 months.

Speckman, aged 41, of Addlestone, Surrey, was a reluctant conspirator. Judge Denison said at the Central Criminal Court, but she had continued to be involved in the plot to export 40 electrical capacitors even when she knew it was illegal.

"You were an active member of this conspiracy, and the consequences of it could have been disastrous not only in the Middle East but perhaps the world," the judge told her.

Ali Ashour Daghir, aged 49, managing director of Euro-mac, an export sales company based in Thames Ditton, Surrey, was jailed for five years on Wednesday. Speckman, a French national married to an Englishman, worked as Daghir's export director.

Michael Kalisher, QC, for Speckman, told the court that her husband was soon to be made redundant and the couple had used their £20,000 savings to pay for her legal costs.

## Student survival

Less than half of students are in debt and almost one in five claims to be saving money in spite of the falling value of grants, according to a survey published yesterday. The survey, carried out by Barclays Bank at five student centres, found that only a third of students had applied to the government's student loans scheme, and 40 per cent were finding it relatively easy to manage on their budget.

## Drug expulsion

Another Marlborough College pupil has been expelled after drug squad detectives made a second raid on the public school in a month. An 18-year-old pupil was arrested for allegedly possessing cannabis. He was questioned at Marlborough police station and was released after being cautioned. The raid followed another last month which resulted in three pupils being expelled.

## Blue-ear notice

The agriculture ministry last night confirmed that an infectious disease that causes abortions and stillbirths in pigs has spread from continental Europe to Britain. Blue-ear disease has been diagnosed on 11 farms in Humberside and one in Durham. John Gummer, the agriculture minister, said that no pigs would be allowed out of a wide restriction zone unless they were going directly for slaughter.

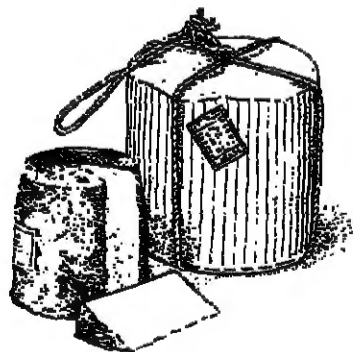
## Steeper fines

The cost of a fixed-penalty parking ticket is to go up to a maximum of £40 from April 1 next year, the government announced yesterday. A parking infringement on one of London's red routes will cost £40, elsewhere in London a ticket will be £30 and £20 in the rest of England and Wales. The £40 penalty will push the total charge for having a car towed away from on a red route to £125.

## Missing woman

Detectives were yesterday hoping that television viewers would provide new leads in the search for Jo Ramsden, the young woman with Down's Syndrome who went missing in Bridport, Dorset, nine weeks ago. A filmed reconstruction of her last known movements was due to be screened by the BBC's *Crimewatch* last night.

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## Local authorities reject Westminster attempt to transfer homeless families

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN  
PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

AN ATTEMPT by Westminster city council to find permanent homes for its many homeless families in parts of the country where there are vacant council premises has met a sharp rebuttal from the local authorities concerned.

The council, with 550 families in temporary accommodation and 750 awaiting a decision before being accepted as homeless, wrote to the 57 local authorities in England outside London heading the environment department list for most empty properties in the hope that they might take on some of them.

About half have replied, all

saying "no", and yesterday Calderdale borough council in West Yorkshire gave a damaging reply. On the BBC *Today* programme, Bob Metcalfe, council housing chairman, accused Westminster of hypocrisy. The North of England had its own housing crisis and homelessness problem, he said, and added: "We are astonished Westminster are even considering and expecting local authorities to be able to help them in this way."

Mr Metcalfe said that Westminster had been selling its council houses instead of housing people, and that they had made a difficult situation much worse by that policy.

Westminster city council said that Calderdale's only reply so far had been to say

that the council would be considering the request. Other council replies had not expressed outrage at the suggestion, but had pointed out that they had housing difficulties of their own, and could not help.

Mrs Judith Warner, Westminster housing chairman, defended the council by saying that the council initiative was a sensible solution to a rapidly growing difficulty in which Westminster homeless numbers were increasing by 15 per cent a year.

As well as the 1,300 homeless or potentially homeless families acknowledged by Westminster, a further 1,800 families are housed temporarily in the borough from elsewhere in London. Mrs Warner

said Westminster was a "one-way flow of people".

"We have more of other boroughs' homeless from outer London boroughs and other parts of the country. It seemed sensible to us to write to authorities which have fairly high void rates to ask them whether they were prepared to enter into a partnership with Westminster, and I stress the word partnership," she said.

Westminster proposed making a nomination payment to any authority taking a homeless person, estimated at an average of £400 a year for 15 years. The council did not make the offer to any other London borough, accepting that they had difficulties, and wrote only to authorities they

believed had some capacity to help.

The latest London figures show that Westminster has 17 properties empty and available to let. Wandsworth 196, Southwark 451 and Hackney 273. Properties awaiting minor repairs number 73 in Westminster, 250 in Wandsworth, 546 in Southwark and 540 in Hackney. Those show, the council said, that it has little scope for housing its homeless.

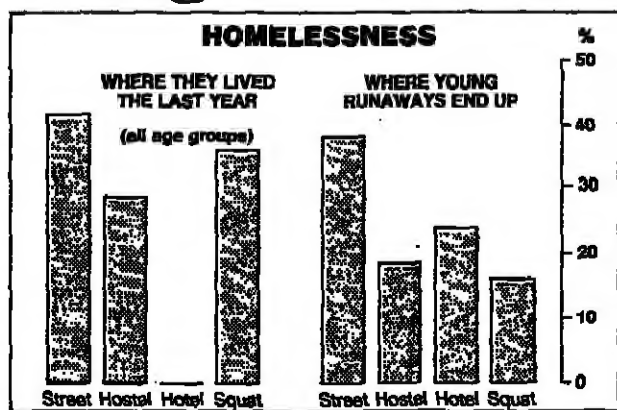
Andrew Dismore, the council's Labour group leader, described the scheme as outrageous and accused the Tories of trying to shirk their responsibilities by deporting homeless people out of London: "It would be far better if they stopped their policy of flogging off vacant council homes to the highest bidder."

Shelter, the campaign for the homeless, said that it had warned Westminster for years of the consequence of selling its properties: "The results are clear. Westminster is now clearly unable to house homeless families. Instead of trying to pass the buck to other councils, it should be asking central government to tackle the nationwide housing crisis."

Shelter said 1991 was likely to be the year that the extent of homelessness was recognised after environment department figures showing that 112,676 people were officially accepted as homeless by English local authorities in the first quarter of the year, a 12 per cent increase on the previous quarter and 5 per cent more than the same period last year.

A record number of homeless families, 50,000, were in bed and breakfast hotels and other kinds of temporary housing at the end of March, 21.5 per cent more than at the same time last year.

Faces of Homelessness (Housing Research Unit, Psychology Department, Surrey University, Guildford GU2 5XH; £5).



THE Salvation Army is to launch a multi-million pound homelessness appeal this autumn, after research which showed 75,000 homeless people in London.

The appeal will coincide with the launch of a new strategy in which the Salvation Army, which has the reputation of offering a bed for life to anyone who needs it, will try to help more people into independent accommodation. "This will not mean turning out anyone on the streets," a spokesman said.

The new strategy, to be developed after talks with government, local authorities and other agencies, follows research findings from Surrey university's psychology department. These show that London has 2,000 people sleeping on its streets; 25,000

in bed and breakfast hotels; 30,000 in squats and 18,000 in hostels and similar accommodation.

Although most Salvation Army centres, which house 750 people, were more than 96 per cent full, many people had been homeless for years and some had slept in one or other dormitory bed every night for more than 30 years. David Canter, professor of psychol-

ogy at Surrey university, said: "The research showed that many of the facilities that exist for a whole variety of reasons, are not moving people on."

The surveys found more older people in hostels than anywhere else, but according to the university report summarising the survey, published yesterday, better management of present hostels

Janet Daley, page 18



## Court martial of pair found naked in lieutenant's cabin

Gulf warship  
Wren and  
airman are  
fined £750

By BILL FROST

A WREN sub-lieutenant and a Royal Navy helicopter observer were yesterday fined £750 each and severely reprimanded by a court martial after being found naked together on board HMS Brilliant while the warship was on active service in the Gulf War.

Both had pleaded guilty to charges under the Naval Discipline Act at a hearing in Devonport, the fleet's home port. Sub-Lieutenant Jacqueline Ramsay, aged 25, and Lieutenant Mark Davies, a married man aged 29, admitted being naked together "without reasonable excuse".

The court martial was told that the two were discovered kneeling naked on either end of Lieutenant Davies' bunk but that they neither had had, nor intended to have, sexual intercourse.

The relationship was said to have blossomed after an incident on April 10. The pair were reported together in a cabin and were banned by Captain Tobin David Elliott from visiting each other's quarters, from leaving the ship



Davies arriving for the court martial yesterday

for two months, and from using the bar for three months. The punishment came at the end of the Gulf war and the two were unable to take shore leave after Brilliant docked at a number of ports. They stayed on board with little or no company but their own.

Sub-Lieutenant Ramsay was among the first Wrens to serve on a Royal Navy warship. She sailed on the type 22 frigate HMS Brilliant, which left Devonport last October against a background of protests from navy wives fearing their husbands might be drawn into temptation. A strict "no touching" rule was imposed on the 230 officers and men. Crew members of both sexes told reporters at the time that they would be "too busy for any flirtation".

Lieutenant Davies, of 829 Naval Air Squadron and Sub-Lieutenant Ramsay, of HMS Ark Royal, admitted wilfully disobeying their captain's command when the couple were found naked together in Davies' cabin.

Lieutenant-Commander Richard Hawke, prosecuting, said Ramsay's cabin-mate reported that Ramsay had not returned to her quarters. He said when senior officers opened Davies' door they saw him kneeling on one end of the bunk and Ramsay on the other. Ramsay said: "Fair enough, you have seen enough. Now please shut the door while I put some clothes on."

Lieutenant-Commander Penny Melville-Brown, for Ramsay, of Ulverston, Cumbria, said the incident took place after the pair had been drinking coffee in a friend's cabin. She said: "Davies went back to his cabin and Ramsay followed. It was less than ten minutes later that the cabin door was thrown open. Sexual intercourse had not taken place. They had already realised the foolishness of their actions and Sub-Lieutenant



Ramsay: one of the first Wrens to serve on board a warship, her friendship with Davies was said to have grown while they were confined to ship

Ramsay was about to leave. But their decision was too late. The door was thrown open and they were discovered."

As one of the first Wrens to serve on board a warship, Ramsay had been under considerable pressure. Her friendship with Davies, had become close while they were confined to ship.

Lieutenant John Parr, for Davies, said: "The facts of the case are hardly earth-shattering, hardly as juicy as we have been led to believe. This was a simple incident which has caused considerable embarrassment out of all proportion to the facts. He is truly sorry for the huge embarrassment this has caused to the service, his wife, and himself."

Secret trial  
agreed for  
torpedo caseBy MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE trial of a businessman charged with making more than £190,000 by supplying the Marconi defence company with sub-standard parts for the Sting Ray, the latest Royal Navy torpedo, is to be held in camera because of possible national security risks.

The Crown Prosecution Service yesterday persuaded a judge to reserve his right to hold secret court in the trial of Raymond Bean, aged 51, of Urchfont, Wiltshire.

Mr Bean faces 15 charges alleging that as owner of a company called VMS he obtained £191,725 from Marconi by falsely representing that components supplied to Marconi conformed with and had been screened to military standard. He denies the charges.

He also denies seven charges of using false certificates with a view to Marconi accepting them as genuine. The charges relate to the supply by VMS to Marconi of an electrical semi-conductor, used in torpedo auto-pilots.

A closed-door application was made to Judge Gerber at Wood Green crown court by Peter Clarke, for the prosecution, who suggested that unless he retained his power of hearing evidence in camera, the trial could come unstuck.

Judge Gerber said: "Once the jury hear that national security might be involved it might prejudice them against the issues, which are deception and dishonesty."

TV sex channel to  
face decency test

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

AFTER Twelve, a proposed all-night satellite sex channel for British viewers, will be prevented from operating or advertising in Britain unless it can convince the Independent Television Commission that its output will not "offend against good taste, decency or public feeling".

The sex channel, which plans to show X-rated films after 10pm as "a TV version of Playboy", is in preliminary negotiation to join Astra, the Luxembourg-based satellite company which leases five of its 16 channels to British Sky Broadcasting. The venture has nothing to do with BSkyB.

David Henry, the founder and managing director of After Twelve, said the channel wishes to aim itself primarily at the British market, offering British viewers fare similar to that available in America and on the Continent.

The commission said yesterday that it could not license After Twelve unless it conformed with rules laid out in the 1990 Broadcasting Act and the commission's programme code. Under the regulations, the portrayal of sexual activity or nudity on satellite and terrestrial television must be "defensible in context and presented with tact and discretion".

The commission's rules are far more conservative than the EC regulations which Astra and other satellite companies must follow. British viewers with Astra dishes can already watch adult films on FilmNet,

the Scandinavian channel, and RTL-Plus, the Luxembourg-based German language channel which broadcasts *Tutti Frutti*, a "Euro-strip-tease gameshow". The two channels are not subject to British rules as neither markets its programmes directly to British viewers.

Koen Van Driel, commercial director of Astra's parent company, Société Européenne des Satellites, said yesterday: "We would not want to upset any viewer, directly or indirectly. But there is a problem with definitions: what someone might call harmless erotica another person might call hard porn."

"I don't think we would help to start a truly pornographic channel, although I know from living in Britain for four years that such a service would be very popular," he said.

Mr Van Driel, who confirmed After Twelve had approached Astra but added that a deal is far from being signed, said programmes such as *Tutti Frutti* or the American *Playboy Channel* were not by any means pornographic.

The ITC, however, was unable to give examples of what sort of adult entertainment would be acceptable: "We are not going to hypothesise."

A complaint about *Children of the Corn* on Thames Television, in which a man's hand was forced into a food slicer has been upheld by the Broadcasting Standards Council.

Gala day  
marred  
by empty  
seats

By CRAIG SETON

EMPTY seats marred an invitation-only royal gala concert in Birmingham on the day the Queen officially opened the city's new £160 million International Convention Centre.

The Princess Royal was present at the evening concert at the 2,200-seat Symphony Hall, part of the convention centre, where the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Simon Rattle, was expected to play to a capacity audience to celebrate the opening earlier on Wednesday of the new conference building.

The performance was shown live on television, and viewers saw scores of empty seats. Among those who received tickets for the concert were delegates to the 97th session of the International Olympic Committee, which the Queen had also formally declared open at the convention centre earlier in the day.

The empty seats at the concert angered the city council, which had issued the tickets, as it marred what was otherwise regarded as a day of triumph for Birmingham in officially launching its new and world-class conference building.

Pat Sever, chairwoman of the city council committee responsible for the convention centre, yesterday expressed her disappointment about the empty seats: "It appears that many of the invited guests who had indicated that they would be attending did not turn up," she said.

'Bodies in car'  
accused cannot  
drive, court told

AN ACCOUNTS clerk who is accused of strangling two women and moving their bodies propped up in the passenger seats of a car cannot drive, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Valentino Valiandis, a prosecution witness, said under cross-examination that he had known the accused, Michael Shorey, since the early Eighties and had never seen him drive.

Mr Shorey, aged 34, is accused of killing his former girl friend, Elaine Forsyth, aged 31, at the flat they shared in Holloway, north London, after an argument on July 21 last year. He is also accused of strangling their flatmate, Patricia Morrison, aged 28.

It is alleged that after visiting the home of the former *EastEnders* actress Sandy Ratcliff to establish an alibi, Mr Shorey drove the women's bodies through the early morning London traffic and abandoned the car in a quiet street. John Nutting, prosecuting,



Valiandis: witness for the prosecution

ing, has said that detectives found a provisional driving licence in Mr Shorey's name at the flat. The court has also been told that Mr Shorey denied being able to drive.

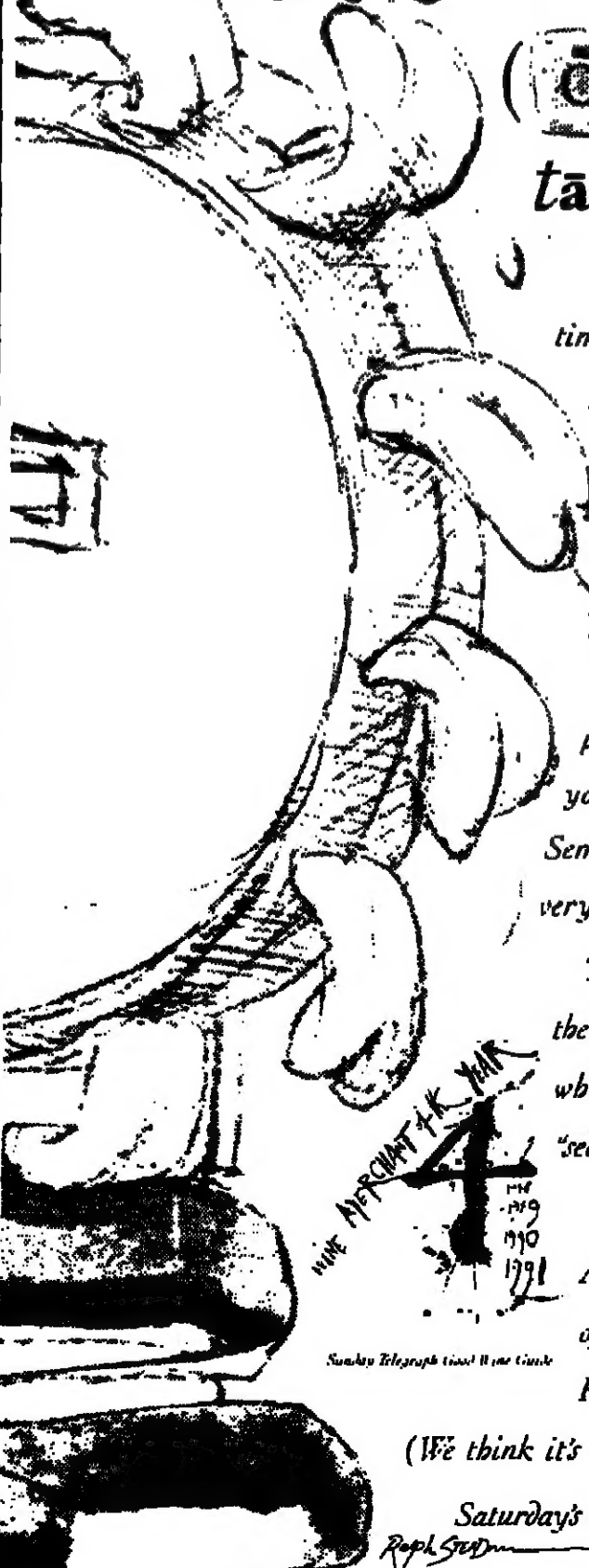
Mr Valiandis's wife, Josephine, told the court that she was expecting Mr Shorey to telephone on the day of the killings because he had asked if he and a friend could borrow their van to move his belongings out of Miss Forsyth's flat. However, he did not telephone.

Mrs Valiandis said that she next saw Mr Shorey among friends at a wine bar the following Monday. He had his arm around a friend, Cathy Whybourn, and both had their heads down. "He seemed to be in a state of shock," Mrs Valiandis said.

She noticed a scab on his left arm and when Miss Whybourn slapped his leg as a joke he doubled up in pain as if he had a groin injury. Mrs Valiandis and other friends urged Mr Shorey to go to the police to offer his help. His reply was: "I can't go, I'll go tomorrow."

Andreas Joannou, a driving instructor, described calling at Mr Shorey's basement flat on the Monday morning after the killings to collect Miss Forsyth for her driving test. Mr Joannou said that he rang the bell for a few minutes then Mr Shorey appeared and told him that neither Miss Forsyth nor Miss Morrison were in. Mr Shorey told him: "They both left last night and I haven't seen them since."

The trial was adjourned until Monday.

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first wine of the 1991 vintage on the planet! At £3.99 it's bound to fly before you can say Penfold's Koonunga Hill Semillon Chardonnay. A mouthful, but a very enjoyable one nonetheless.

The Mitchelton Cab-Mac has just made the pages of Vogue (a snip dabling at £4.19), whilst the David Wynn Shiraz is also a "seductive" little number. £4.99 to be precise.

And finally, our coup de glass, The Mountadam Chardonnay. This pinnacle of Australian wine making was, in Robert Parker's view, "quite spectacular."

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delicious sweet wine here"  
Jane Marquardt  
The Times

**Oddbins**  
1991 Hardy's Early Bird  
£3.99  
"The first 1991 wine  
on the planet!"  
And, representing  
astoundingly great value.

**Oddbins**  
1990 Mitchelton  
Cab-Mac £4.19  
"Quite delicious,  
uncomplicated and fun."  
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**Oddbins**  
1990 Penfold's  
Koonunga Hill Semillon  
Chardonnay £3.99  
"A classic Aussie blend  
from the outstandingly  
good Penfold's estate"

**Oddbins**  
1990 David Wynn Shiraz  
£4.99  
"Sweetly seductive and  
generously fruity."  
Jim Anderson  
Amos

**Oddbins**  
1989 Mountadam  
Chardonnay £9.99  
"Quite spectacular.  
Possibly the finest  
Australian I've made in  
Robert Parker."

## V&amp;A marks Elizabethan years

By ALAN HAMILTON

THE fortieth anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne is to be celebrated next year with a major exhibition of the second Elizabethan life and times at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Rarely seen items from the royal picture collection and other memorabilia are being lent for the display, designed by the Royal College of Art and John Julius Norwich, the author and art historian.

Buckingham Palace is not planning an official celebration of the anniversary, but

has given its approval to an independent body, the Royal Anniversary Trust, to organise a programme of events. The trust plans to institute a major environmental award to be competed for by schools and colleges who propose schemes for improving their own local communities.

Robin Gill, chairman of the trust, said that the exhibition at the V&A would show how the Queen had been a figure of order and stability in a changing world during the four decades of her reign, and

would offer a more intimate understanding of the monarchy.

On the anniversary of King George VI's death, February 6, and his daughter's accession while on holiday in Kenya, the BBC plans to show a documentary, now being filmed in various parts of the world, on the Queen's working life.

It will be the most revealing insight into the monarch's world since Richard Cawston's celebrated BBC film *Royal Family* was shown in 1969.



## Ministers to oversee care service reform

By TIM MILES

WILLIAM Waldegrave, the health secretary, sought yesterday to underpin the government's community care reforms by taking steps to ensure that health and local authorities prepare for their implementation.

He announced detailed arrangements to monitor the progress that each authority is making towards full implementation of the reforms in April 1993. Regional health authorities and the health department's social services inspectorate will report to ministers every six months from September.

Monitoring will include checks on whether local authorities are moving as the government wishes towards buying more care services from private and voluntary groups rather than continuing to provide them all themselves.

Speaking in London to senior managers from health and social services authorities, Mr Waldegrave emphasised his and the government's commitment to the reforms. He said that although that

commitment was not in doubt, members of his audience had to demonstrate theirs. "My expectation of you as managers is that you will not only implement the changes in the systems by 1993, but that you will ensure they deliver the objectives as well."

From April 1993, local authorities will take over the duty of co-ordinating the £5 billion services for elderly people and for mentally and physically handicapped people. At present, the services are split between local authority social services and health authorities.

Millions of pounds in social security payments funds will be transferred to them to fund individual packages of care intended to ensure wherever possible that people are looked after in their own homes. Mr Waldegrave said that the aim, as with the government's health service reforms, was to improve the quality of public services by making them more responsive to individual needs.



Degrees of honour: Mary Robinson, president of the Irish Republic, centre, with Sir Alastair Pilkington on her right, and Sir Alec Guinness, second right, in procession to the Senate House at Cambridge university yesterday, where they were among nine recipients of honorary doctorates

## Rifkind unveils route of M6 border extension

By MICHAEL DYNES  
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE long-awaited, preferred route of the proposed 5½-mile extension of the M6 across the English-Scottish border, was announced yesterday by Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary.

The new route, which was originally scheduled for publication 12 months ago, will connect the M6 at junction 44 to the M74 on the Scottish side of the border, and complete the final link of the three-lane motorway between England and Scotland.

Transport officials expect to publish draft orders for the new road shortly, enabling any objectors to register their protests. Sufficient opposition could lead to a public enquiry, although there appears to be strong local support for the project.

After leaving the M6 at junction 44, the line of the proposed motorway runs along the existing A74 before entering Hespian Wood, and passing west of Floristonrig. The road continues parallel to the A74, running on a shallow embankment through Metal Bridge Wood to minimise tree loss.

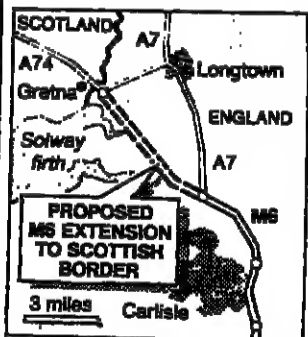
It then crosses the river Eak, upstream from the Solway Firth site of special scientific interest, before rejoining the A74 south of Gretna.

The road is expected to cost about £50 million and take two years to complete. Officials hope that work can begin in 1993, although a public enquiry could delay it up to three years.

Unveiling the preferred route, Mr Rifkind said: "This is good news for travellers between England and Scotland, particularly for the ferry traffic to and from the Scottish ports."

Building this link will complete the motorway route from Glasgow to all the English regions.

● Harsh winter weather in February resulted in a 3 per cent drop in the level of traffic for the first quarter of 1991 compared with the previous year, according to provisional estimates published yesterday by the transport department.



## Decision on zoo's fate imminent

By MICHAEL HORNSBY

LONDON zoo, which is losing £1.5 million a year, said yesterday that its future would have to be decided within the next month but denied reports that a decision had already been taken to close at the end of September.

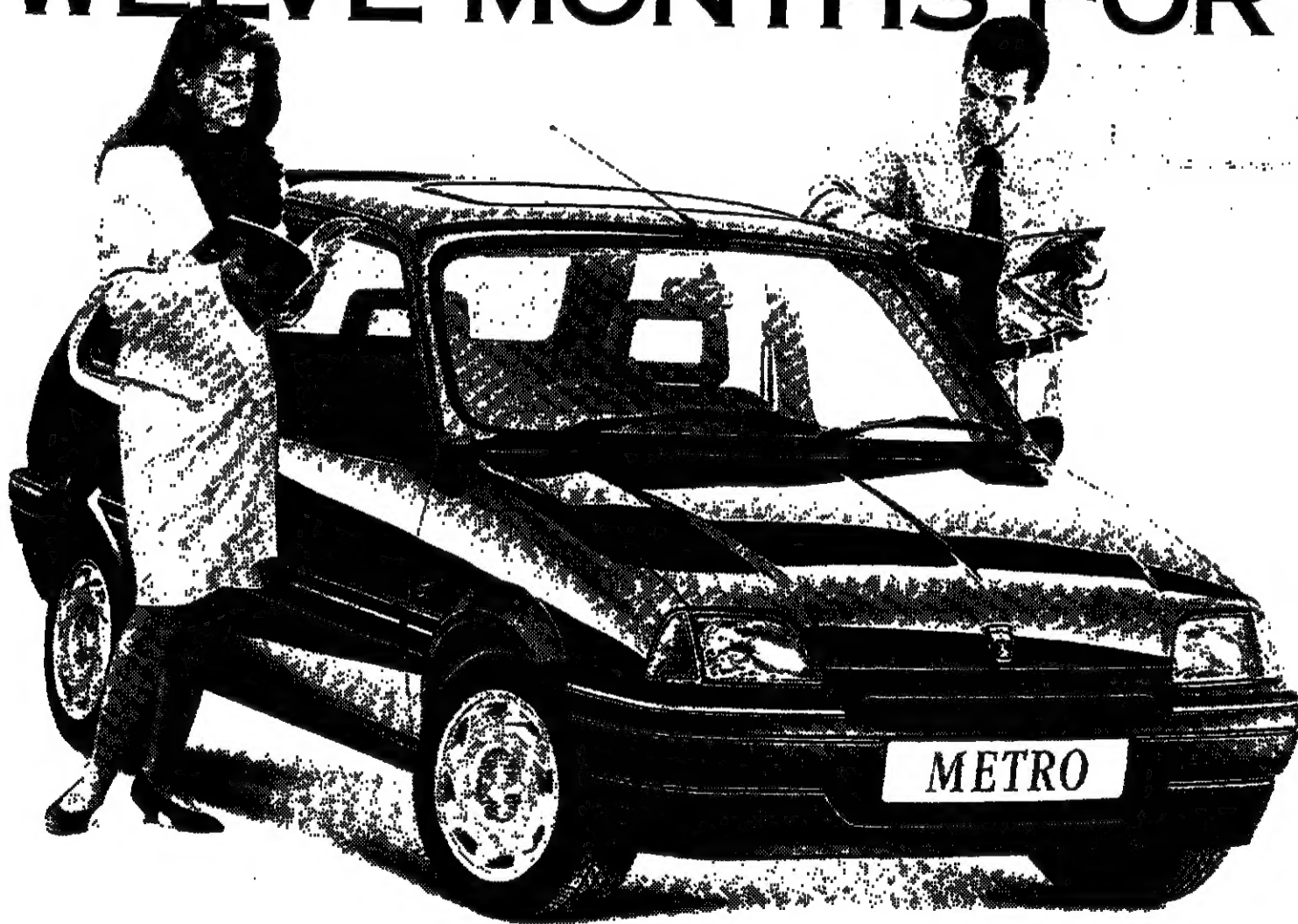
David Jones, the zoo's director, said: "D-day is imminent. We have a meeting of the board of Zoo Operations, which runs the zoo, on June 26, followed by a meeting of the governing council on July 9. That is the time frame within which we have got to operate."

The zoo said it hoped the government could be persuaded that a "structured withdrawal" of the zoo from its present site would be preferable to immediate closure, which might mean that some of the 8,000 animals would have to be killed.

"We estimate that we would need £2 million a year from the government over three years," Julie Fitzherbert-Brockholes, the zoo's public affairs officer, said. The environment department said last night: "There will be no more government money for London zoo in its present form in Regent's Park."

Leading article, page 19

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THE NEW METRO

## Prince defends his criticism at awards

By JOHN YOUNG

THE Queens Inclusion First and Middle School at Waterloo, Hampshire, was yesterday declared the winner of the Building of the Year award, sponsored and organised by the Royal Fine Art Commission and The Sunday Times.

The award was presented by the Prince of Wales to David Morris, of Hampshire county council architects' department, at a reception in London at which the prince defended his sometimes controversial interventions in the debate on modern architecture.

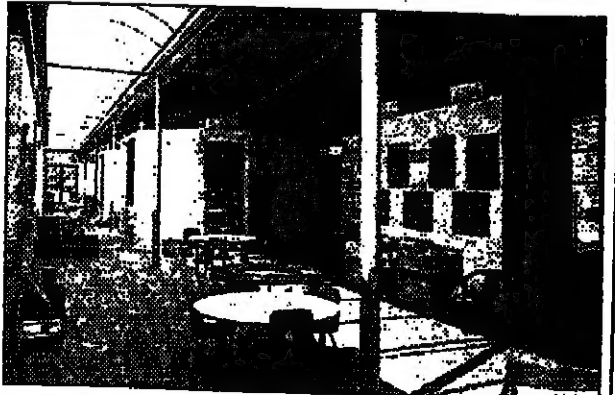
The school, built in glass and steel in an uncompromisingly modern style, stands on the edge of a 95-acre wood and is designed and sited to make the most of its pastoral setting. Its light, open, transparent character has been acclaimed, and its semi-open internal layout allows adaptation for future needs.

Four other buildings were commended: the Sussex stand at Goodwood, with its spectacular "tent" roof, designed by Arup Associates; the Cardiff Visitors' Centre, an oval tube designed as a temporary structure by Alsop Lyall and Stormer for Cardiff Bay development corporation; a striking and colourful small block of six flats on the edge of Waltham Forest (Wickham and Associates); and the Sterling hotel near Terminal 4 at Heathrow, (Manser Associates).

The prince said he was regularly asked why he was always critical and never praising. "The trouble is that, if you actually praise things, which I do fairly frequently, nobody is interested. If you say nice things, it is not very good news."

Criticism tended to cause "a jolly good row and a nice controversy" and generally found its way into newspapers. Being critical helped to encourage discussion about issues he believed profoundly important.

Among the short-listed buildings he singled out the Goodwood stand, and the Waltham Forest flats. But the real test was whether over the course of the years buildings reached the hearts of the public, he added.



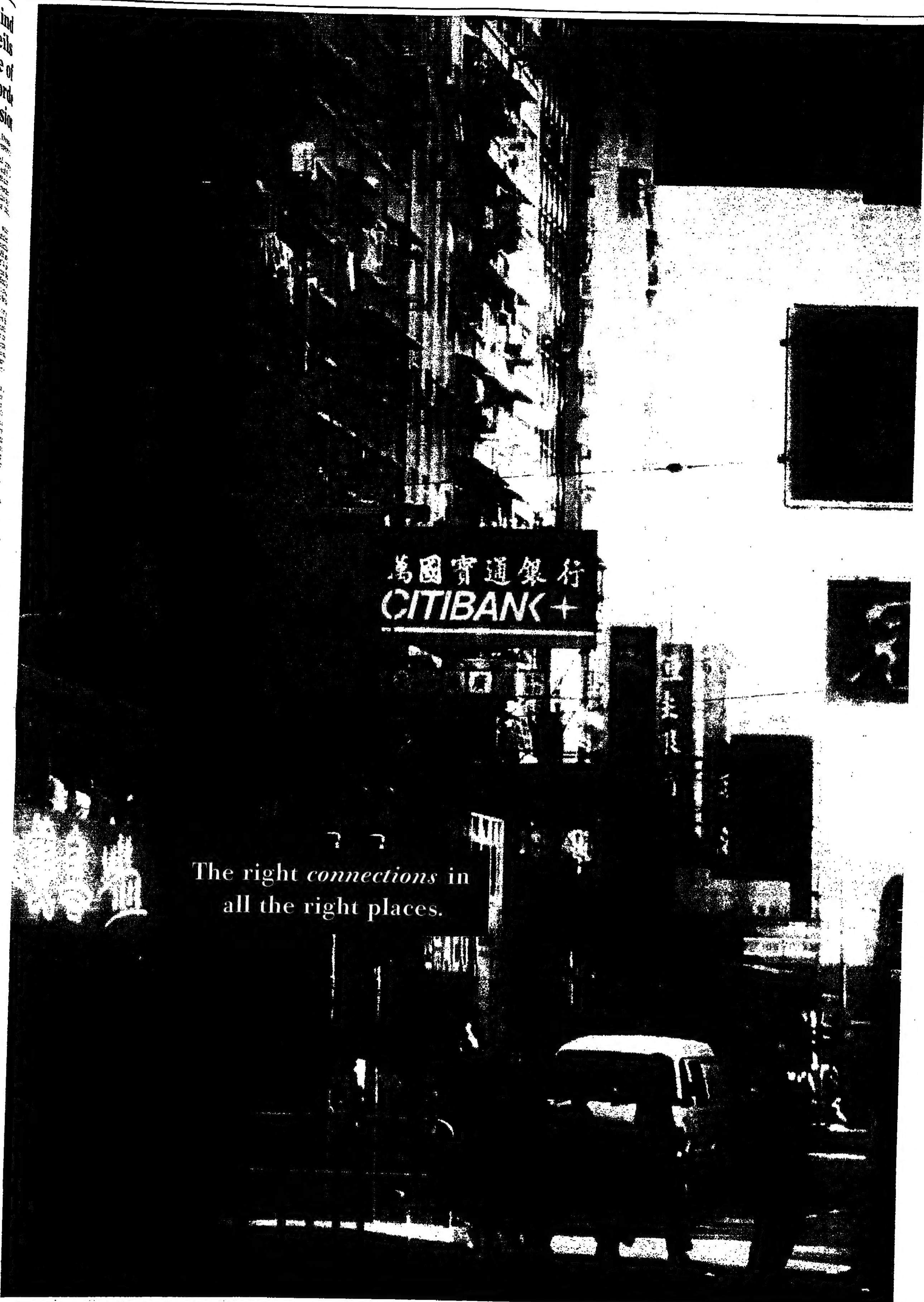
Learning curve: the light and airy Queens Inclusion school, Waterloo, named as Building of the Year



Rifkind unveils route of M16 border extension

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## New-town staff paid £6m redundancy to work under contract

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

STAFF working on two new town corporations received more than £6.6 million redundancy even though they continued to do the same work under contract, Parliament's public spending watchdog disclosed yesterday.

An enquiry into privatisation of work in Milton Keynes, Telford, and Warrington and Runcorn development corporations uncovered a dispute about making redundancy payments to 800 staff who formed private business ventures to take over corporation work.

Telford and Warrington and Runcorn corporations

both paid redundancy. Milton Keynes saved about \$4 million in redundancy costs by deciding that the staff had, in effect, resigned.

The Commons public accounts committee said: "Under the complex provisions of redundancy legislation the corporations and the department took a number of steps to establish whether redundancy payments should be made to ex-corporation staff joining the business ventures, even though they continued to undertake the same work as before."

Both in Telford and in Warrington and Runcorn the

corporations believed that without redundancy payments the staff would leave and not join the business ventures, which have won £37 million worth of corporation work. The environment department admitted that the staff who received redundancy payments might not stay with the business ventures.

"We recognise the complexities surrounding the legal entitlement to redundancy payments in different circumstances, but we consider that careful attention should be given before making such payments to staff who are effectively continuing in their former jobs with substantial assurances of continued employment," it added.

The committee also criticised the department for leaving the arrangements for privatising the work to the corporations.

Privatisation of work in new town bodies in England: House of Commons committee of public accounts, 19th report (Stationery Office, £8.90)

## Call for disabled rights

Thirteen charities joined forces yesterday to launch a manifesto for the rights of Britain's six million disabled people (Tim Miles writes).

The charities were: Action for Blind People, Deaf Accord, the Disability Alliance, MENCAP, MIND, the Mus-

cular Dystrophy Group, the National Federation of the Blind, The Royal Association of Disability and Rehabilitation, the Greater London Association of Disabled People, the RNIB, the RNID, the Spastics Society and the Spinal Injuries Association.



Doubles: beside a bust of the Iron Duke stands Martin Wimhurst, who plays Wellington in a play of that name at Apsley House during Waterloo Week

## Aspirin a day helps foetus to develop

By THOMSON PRENTICE MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

ASPIRIN, one of the world's oldest and cheapest drugs, continues to reveal new strengths. After having emerged as a life-saver for sufferers of heart attacks and strokes, it now appears able to help some women avoid pregnancy hazards and have healthier babies.

In the biggest study of its kind, researchers have found that the pills, developed in Germany a century ago as a simple pain-reliever, can prevent foetal growth retardation, a leading cause of stillbirth and death in early infancy.

The findings, published today in *The Lancet*, may justify giving aspirin to pregnant women at high risk of the condition, although the researchers say it should be used with great caution.

The study, carried out over five years in 25 French maternity hospitals, involved 323 women who had had a baby with foetal growth retardation in at least one previous pregnancy. Two groups received a low dose daily of aspirin or of a placebo.

The results showed that retardation and stillbirth were only half as common in babies of mothers given aspirin, and that the babies had a significantly higher birthweight than those in the placebo group.

Foetal retardation is linked with a disorder of the placenta and with pre-eclampsia, a serious condition in which some 7 per cent of women develop high blood pressure and protein in the urine during the second half of pregnancy.

Aspirin appears to prevent hormonal changes that damage placental arteries, and to help the placenta and thus the foetus to develop normally. Because it also acts as an anti-coagulant and can cause bleeding, however, its use has been discouraged in pregnancy.

The researchers say that bleeding was not a serious problem in the study, and that headaches were the most common side-effect. There is now an urgent need to find early and reliable markers in women at risk, they say.

A similar study involving about 5,200 women, most of them British, is being conducted internationally into aspirin's potential to prevent pre-eclampsia and other complications in pregnancy.

Earlier this year, British researchers said that more than 200 studies, involving 100,000 patients, showed that aspirin could save thousands of lives as an anti-coagulant in heart attacks and strokes.

## Getty gives £250,000 to save pendant

A public appeal to raise £2.5 million to prevent the export of the Middleham Jewel, the gold and sapphire pendant linked to the court of Richard III, has received a pledge of £250,000 from J. Paul Getty Jr, it was disclosed yesterday.

The National Heritage Memorial Fund last month gave £1 million towards the appeal, which was launched on May 22 by the Yorkshire Museum.

After its discovery in 1985 the jewel was sold at Sotheby's for almost £1.4 million; the government has twice deferred an export licence.

## Pindown man to carry on

Mike Poulter, chairman of social services in Staffordshire, has survived calls for his resignation after a critical report that condemned the "pindown" regime used to control children. The county council Labour group heavily defeated a call for his resignation at a Stafford meeting.

An enquiry by Allan Levy, QC, described the practice as intrinsically unethical, unprofessional and unacceptable.

## Graffiti ban

Nicholas Kent, aged 18, unemployed, of Marylebone, north London, was banned from all London Tube trains and stations when Marylebone magistrates yesterday gave him bail to stand trial accused of causing £10,000 worth of graffiti damage.

## Oxfam sentence

John Barrow, aged 43, of Earls Barton, Northamptonshire, was yesterday jailed for 18 months at Northampton crown court after denying theft and deception involving charity monies and effects while he was in charge of Oxfam's Northampton depot.

## Wrong hold

Sheila McLean, aged 48, of Blackpool, Lancashire, was fined £20 by the town's magistrates yesterday for allowing her 14-year-old daughter Emma to appear on a professional wrestling bill.

## Fire island

Joyriders who took the fire engine from the unmanned fire station at Marston Island on the Essex coast left only a back-up vehicle to answer emergency calls.

## High and dry

Twenty-five canal cruisers have been beached after a leak drained three miles of the Shropshire Union canal.

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38,600 SQUARE MILES OF  
GAME RESERVES, YOU'D  
EXPECT TO FIND THE  
WORLD'S LEADING ECOLOGISTS. ECOLOGISTS WHO  
HAVE SUCCEEDED IN  
AREAS WHERE OTHERS  
HAVE FAILED.

FOR INSTANCE, IN  
SAVING THE BLACK RHINO,  
A SPECIES ENDANGERED



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YOU THROUGH MILES OF  
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THAT GERMANY OR

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THE PRICE. THANKS TO AN EXCELLENT POUND  
STERLING EXCHANGE RATE.

ANOTHER REASON, PERHAPS. WHY THE SUN  
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THE NEW SOUTH AFRICA. BRINGING THE SUNSHINE BACK INTO AFRICA.



The 14th-century wall that surrounded the Fleet jail

## Fleet prison may have been island

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE Fleet prison, which stood near the site of Holborn Viaduct, north-west of St Paul's Cathedral, might have dated from the age of William the Conqueror and have been built on an island, archaeologists believe.

An analysis of an extensive excavation has disclosed that the prison, the first English stone-built jail, was surrounded by the Fleet river (now beneath Farringdon Street) and dates from the 11th century.

Bill McCann, project co-ordinator for the two-year excavation, which was sponsored for £3 million by Rosehaugh Stanhope Developments and ended last September, said:

"Studying the stratigraphy findings in the last few days we suddenly realised that the site of the prison must have been an island, and it becomes a logical place to build a prison, with the added security of being surrounded by water. We also believe it dates from the reign of William the Conqueror."

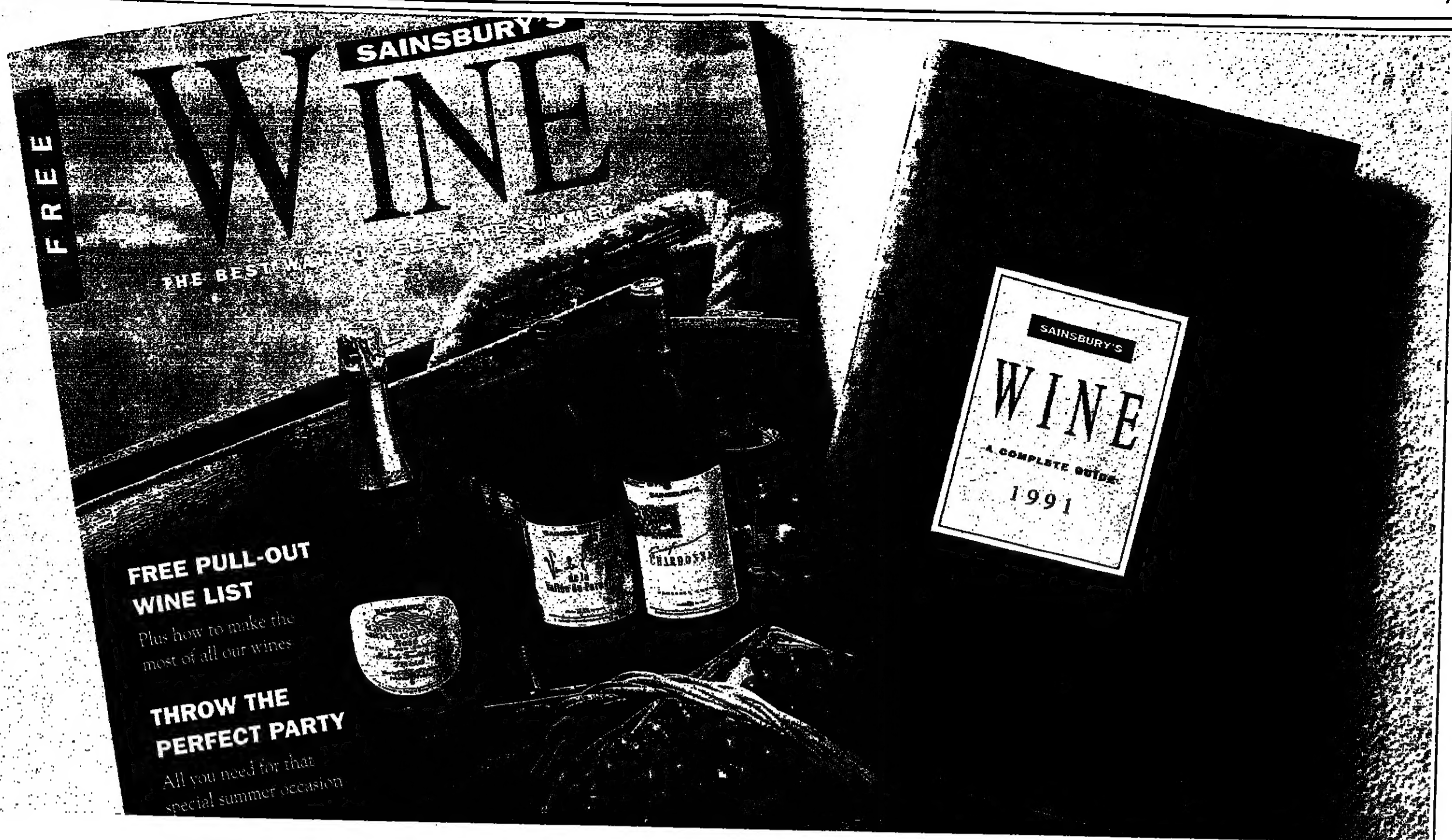
Later, after the river had silted up and become shallow, a moat was dug around

the stronghold. Remains give no evidence of the calibre of prisoners held in the early Fleet, but Mr McCann said that the positioning of the building outside but close to the city walls and its strength, unique for the time, suggest that it was likely to have been designed to hold the Conqueror's political prisoners after the invasion as he struggled to maintain control of his new kingdom.

The discovery has come too late to be included in an exhibition on the excavation, which opens today at the entrance to the old Holborn Viaduct station.

The dig reveals that a Roman water mill had stood on the island before the prison was built and that on the site of the Old Bailey had been a kila, a temple and an inn at different times of the Roman occupation. Thirty well-preserved barrels from the Middle Ages have been found and new techniques of dendrochronology (tree-ring analysis) may not only reveal the year they were made but the season, while trade marks could tell where the wine came from.





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## General asks MPs to fight for regiment's survival

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Queen's Regiment has begun a campaign among MPs to save it from excessive cuts in the government operation to reduce the army by 40,000. Other regiments facing cuts or disbandment are also joining the battle for survival.

Major-General Michael Reynolds, colonel of the Queen's Regiment, has written to MPs with constituencies in the regimental recruiting area of Surrey, Kent, Sussex and Middlesex to seek their support.

General Reynolds told the MPs it would be unfair if large regiments, such as the Queen's Regiment, with three regular battalions, were singled out for heavier cuts than the small regiments with only one battalion. He accepted that the Queen's Regiment, which dates back to 1572 and holds 46 Victoria Crosses, must take its fair share of cuts but appealed to the MPs to represent their county regiments "with vigour and authority when decision time comes".

The army board has less than a month to resolve which

regiments are to be amalgamated or disbanded. The 55 regular infantry battalions, which include five Gurkha battalions, are expected to be reduced to 36. Tom King, the defence secretary, will announce the army's decision next month.

General Reynolds told the MPs: "Personally, I think it is unwise to cut our armed forces at the present uncertain time." He expected strong support for the remaining small regiments that represented one or two counties only. But he told the MPs that large regiments offered "far greater flexibility for deployment, reinforcement (and) career prospects".

The last time there were amalgamations, he said, all regiments were encouraged to become "large" voluntarily. The Queen's, the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, the Royal Anglians, the Royal Green Jackets and the Light Infantry volunteered.

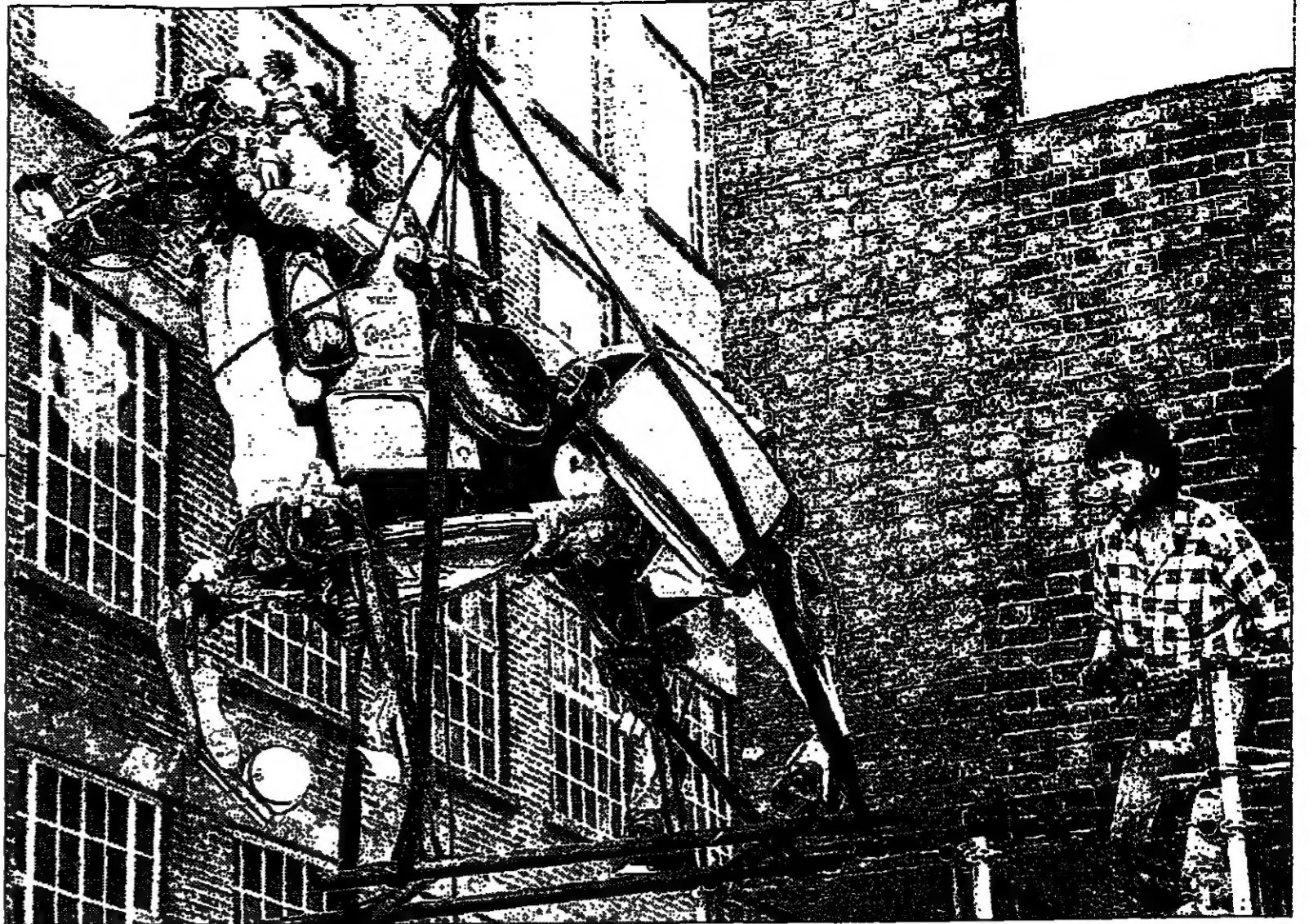
General Reynolds admitted the loss of one battalion from the Queen's Regiment would be sustainable, but if the

regiment were reduced to one battalion, "we do not believe we would remain viable". The Queen's Regiment has three regular battalions, now in Germany, Cyprus and Kent, and three Territorial Army battalions, with their headquarters in Canterbury, Horsham and London.

Joining battle, Brigadier Robert Long, colonel of the Royal Hampshire Regiment, also disclosed that all Hampshire MPs have been "briefed" to fight for the regiment. Writing in the regimental magazine in an article headed *The Clouded Horizon*, Brigadier Long said: "You can rest assured that the case for the continued existence of the regiment has been stated vigorously."

The 1st battalion was below establishment because of the decision by the defence ministry to put a limit on recruiting. "It is a questionable and unfair measure," he said. Soldiers were having to work twice as hard to cover for reduced numbers.

Gordons prepare, page 16



High horse: Anthony Heywood securing one of four horses he has made from scrap above the entrance to Smith's gallery at Covent Garden, London, yesterday. The junk sculptures, *The San Marco Project*, consist of discarded items, from old television sets to children's toys

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### National park plan attacked

By PETER DAVENPORT

THE proposed designation of 61 villages in the Yorkshire Dales national park as conservation areas has provoked a protest at the power of planners over local people.

Copies of a petition, described as a "vote of no confidence" in the national park, are on display in shops, post offices and public houses, and organisers claim to have more than 1,000 signatures.

The protesters object to the strict planning policies imposed by the park authority and the fact that the authority's members are not directly elected. They say that conservation area status will impose unacceptable restrictions on village residents.

At present, the authority has 24 members, two thirds of whom are councillors nominated from the county and district councils, with the rest appointed by the environment secretary. The proposal, aimed at protecting the villages from unsuitable development, has been put forward by a team of consultants.

William Whitehead, landlord of the King's Head in Gunnerside and one of those behind the petition, said yesterday: "It's been a long-standing feeling in the area that an unelected body should not have so much power over the lives of ordinary people. The issue of conservation area status for these villages is the straw that broke the camel's back. They will even be able to tell people what colour they can paint their houses."

The park authority said yesterday that any designation would be carried out in consultation with residents, adding: "People are automatically suspicious of conservation areas because of the restrictions they carry, but there are real benefits, such as the availability of improvement grants."

### Cannabis haul among frozen chips

Police have seized cannabis with a street value of more than £4.5 million hidden among frozen chips in a refrigerated store on an industrial estate in Bilthorpe, Nottinghamshire.

The discovery was made when a pallet was broken as a fork-lift driver moved the frozen chips consignment from Amsterdam, and a case was found to contain cannabis resin and leaves.

Police and customs officials opened all 30 cases and found 1643 lb of cannabis.

### Drug sentences

Four members of a drugs gang were sentenced at Birmingham crown court yesterday for conspiracy to supply £3 million of cannabis. George Lipinski and Patrick Notorantonio were jailed for eight years and Carl Wyatt and Francis McGrail for six years.

### Siege over

A siege at Pickering, North Yorkshire, ended peacefully after four days yesterday when the man involved walked out of the house and gave himself up to armed police.

### Soccer baby

A baby boy hours old was found wrapped in a red and white Liverpool football club bedspread on the doorstep of an old people's home near Sittingbourne, Kent.

### Blackmail ruling

Richard Johnson, aged 43, of Northolt, Middlesex, director of a telephone crisis line for incest victims, was cleared at Bristol crown court yesterday of blackmailing a child sex victim's father.

### Dinosaur lost

Police are looking for a 10ft pink dinosaur taken from a carnival float at Puriton, near Bridgwater, Somerset.

## The Call of AFRICA

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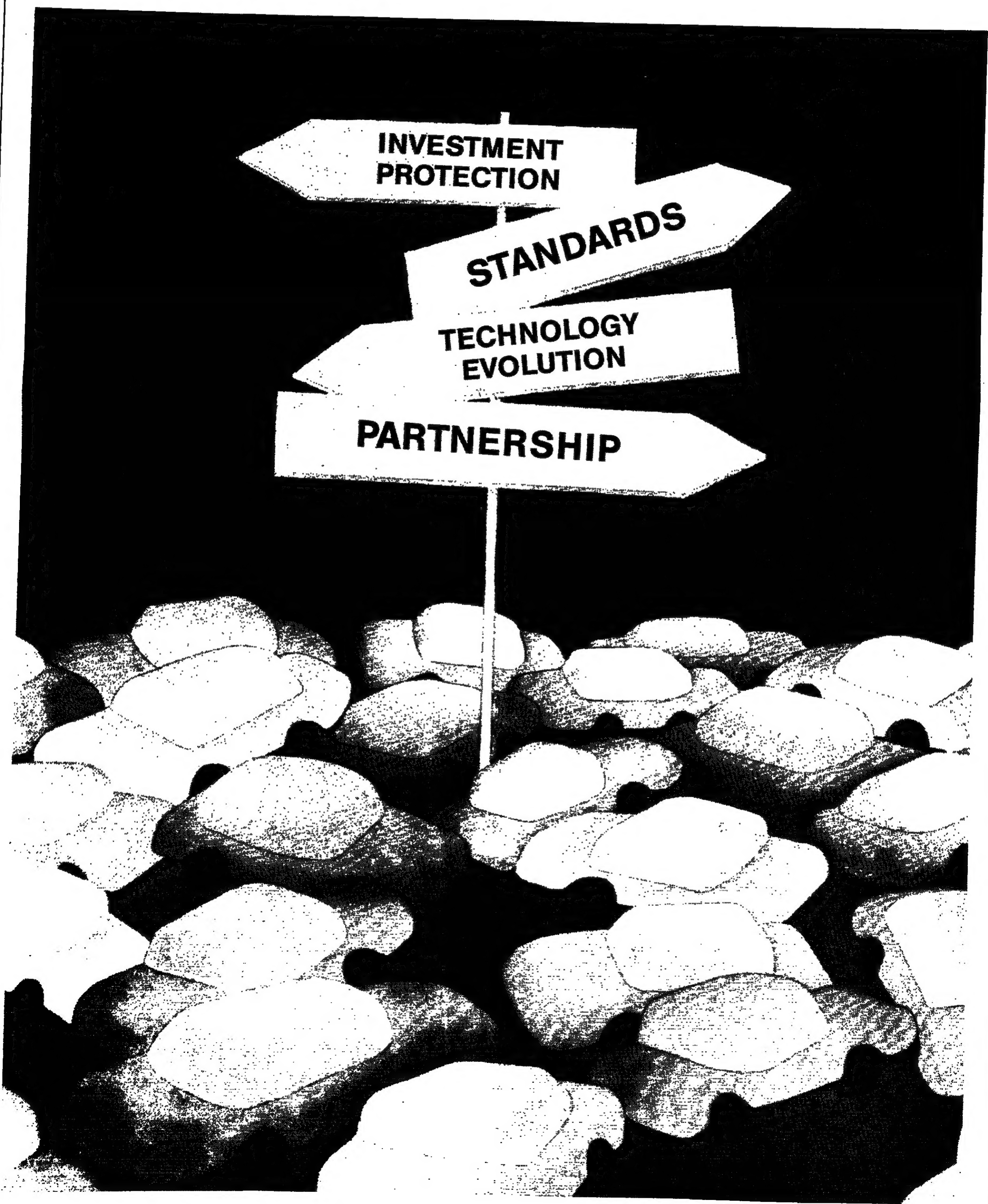
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# Lamont derided as a Chancellor who dreams dreams

By PETER MULLIGAN AND JOHN WINDER

A SUSTAINED assault on government assurances about economic recovery was launched in the Commons last night by Gordon Brown, the shadow trade and industry secretary, during a Labour-inspired debate on business.

In a powerful speech, he accused ministers of having "failed, failed and failed again". They had nothing to offer but their resignations.

Mr Brown dwelt on the consequences of unemployment — "skilled, conscientious, reliable men in their fifties gradually beginning to realise they will never work again" — and ridiculed ministerial predictions. "They told us three years ago there was a miracle and there was not, that there was not a recession and there was. Can we really believe anything that they say about the recovery?"

He compared Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, a man playing with assertions of an upturn being "around the corner", and of signs of "vague stirrings", to one who sees visions. "He is seeing things that he knows others cannot see and living his whole life as if they were there, a textbook case of an otherwise sane man hallucinating the whole economic recovery just as three years ago he had hallucinated a whole economic miracle."

Mr Brown delighted Labour

MPs by citing a "confession" by Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, who told an interviewer that inflation had risen "because of mistakes made during the period I was at the Treasury". Mr Brown said: "These are the men who are guilty of creating a recession



Brown: ministers have failed and failed again, they once claimed never existed, guilty of compounding it by further actions and guilty of failing to correct it without rapidly rising unemployment and cutting at the heart of our industrial capacity.

He emphasised government figures which, he said, showed all the elements of further grief in rising imports and balance of payments deficit. He quoted estimates of up to

50,000 business failures this year, and said that interest payments were now a far greater share of company outlay than total investment.

He added that a minimum wage had not affected employment in other countries "and there is no reason to believe it will affect it here."

Mr Lilley said that Mr Brown played the part of Ron Gilm of the old radio programme, and could brighten a room merely by leaving it. He was long on gloom and short on policies. "Labour has no strategy on inflation, for recession or for unemployment. They have put their policies out of sight because they are ashamed of them."

Success in dealing with inflation was a precondition for everything else and that was why getting it down was the government's top priority, and it was coming down. They were winning the battle. It was projected to be 4 per cent by the year's end, half the lowest level Labour had ever achieved.

"Pay costs are already slowing down. I have to say that this is best encouraged where top management set an example themselves."

# Whips enjoy their little lynch party

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THOSE who live by the sword can expect to die by the sword. About eighteen months ago, Bill Cash, Conservative MP for Stafford, led a successful right-wing coup against the sitting pro-European leadership of the backbench Tory European affairs committee. Among the victims were Sir Anthony Meyer and Ian Taylor, now pps to William Waldegrave.

On Wednesday evening, the centre-left, in the shape of the 120-strong Lollard grouping, cheered on by the whips, took its revenge. Mr Cash, the committee chairman, had to endure a barrage of criticism from colleagues angered by his "divisive" links with the anti-federalist Bruges Group and suffered the indignity of being urged to resign his post by Tony Marlow, a maverick right-winger who was among the first to turn publicly against Margaret Thatcher. One contented whip said that it had been a long time since he had attended a lynch party.

Mr Cash's protestations that he had disowned the vitriolic memorandum penned by Patrick Robertson, the Bruges Group secretary, cut little ice. Andrew MacKay, MP for East Berkshire, told him that he was indulging in "semantics" by arguing that he was a member of the Friends of Bruges and not the parent body. The Stafford MP was given an object lesson in guilt by association.

Association is all in the

turbulent waters of Tory Euro-politics. As John Major tiptoes towards some form of agreement on monetary and political union, at least half a dozen bodies are jostling for his ear. The Euro-sceptic wing is represented mainly by the Bruges Group (which claims 100 MPs as supporters), Friends of Bruges (10 to 20) and by the Conservative European Reform Group (CERG), although other more broadly based organisations such as the 92 Group weigh in occasionally. There is also the backbench committee, which after the 1989 patch is solidly anti-Brussels under its other officers: Tony Favell, Christopher Gill and James Cran.

The other side of the fault line running through the party is headed by the Conservative Group for Europe (CGE), which claims to have more than 100 MPs and is chaired by John Butterfield, MP for Bournemouth West. Hugh Dykes, a former chairman and vice-president, and David Hunt, the Welsh secretary and a current vice-president, are also members.

The Lollards, the centre-left counterpart to the 92, also reckon to play a part. Under Mrs Thatcher they spent much of their time consigned to outer darkness and they appear to be enjoying their reincarnation as loyalists. Of late, they have taken to muttering to the whips about the disloyalty of right-wing colleagues. They are also plotting a counter-



Marlow: a maverick cheered on by the whips

revolution when the backbench committee elections are held in the autumn.

The battle lines are not, however, so clearly drawn. Mr Marlow, MP for Northampton North, is on the steering group of the CERG, which claims a membership

of 72 MPs, dismisses the CGE as "Euro-fanatics" and is led by Teddy Taylor, the personification of anti-market sentiment.

At least part of the explanation lies in the splintering of centre-right opposition to European

integration under the pressure of events. Mr Taylor's group is somewhat disingenuously supporting the prime minister, commending the "Euro-waffle without surrender" he is deploying in his attempts to negotiate acceptable treaties.

It has broken publicly with the line adopted by the Bruges Group and Mr Ridley: that Britain should veto a single currency and a central bank. Instead, the CGE says, the treaties should include an opt-out clause for Britain.

The Thatcherite wing of the Conservative party is planning next week to make a public show of support for Mr Major (Philip Webster writes). He has been invited to a reception to be held at the Commons by Conservative Way Forward, the right-wing group chaired by Cecil Parkinson that was established earlier this year to press for policies building on the achievements of the Thatcher years. Mr Major has indicated that he will attend the reception subject to other engagements.

Persistent but unsubstantiated rumours that Mrs Thatcher is unhappy with the way her successor is carrying on her inheritance have plagued the Conservatives in recent weeks. The group has decided that the time has come to show there is no contradiction between remaining loyal to the policies and principles of Mrs Thatcher and giving full support to Mr Major.

Letters, page 19

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# Ministers will meet on Ulster

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH and Irish ministers meet today in yet another attempt to resolve the difficulties surrounding the search for a person to chair stage two of Peter Brooke's initiative.

Several names have been put forward for the task of chairing discussions between the government of the republic and Ulster's political parties, but it has so far proved impossible to agree.

Today it is hoped that Mr Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary, and Gerry Collins, the republic's foreign affairs minister, will agree a shortlist of candidates for what many at Westminster regard as one of the more unenviable tasks of politics.

With six weeks gone of the ten-week period set aside for the talks, there is added urgency in the search for a chairman agreeable to both governments and the province's four constitutional parties. Mr Brooke told MPs yesterday: "We hope to reach agreement before long on an independent chairman".

Despite his cautious optimism, there is some exasperation within the government at the length of time it has taken Irish officials to respond to a number of suggested names put forward by Britain. Ideally, the government would like the chairman to be from the British Isles. They fear that a candidate from abroad would not have the necessary background knowledge to negotiate the shoals of Irish politics and that a foreigner could result in the further internationalisation of Northern Ireland's troubles.

If no breakthrough is achieved before next Friday, the progress of Mr Brooke's initiative is expected to be a key part of a meeting the prime minister is to hold then with Charles Haughey, the Irish prime minister, at 10 Downing Street. It will be the first full meeting between the two men since John Major became prime minister and Mr Haughey will be hoping to develop a warmer friendship that he achieved with Margaret Thatcher.

# Cumbria to get extra aid

A package of support measures for Cumbria was announced in a Commons statement by Peter Lilley, trade and industry secretary, to begin countering especially heavy unemployment in the west of the county. He said that 24 hours earlier he had received a consultant's report on the situation in the wake of announced job losses of 5,000 to 6,000 at Vickers, Barrow-in-Furness and 5,000 after the completion of British Nuclear Fuels building projects.

"We are not prepared to let the region fall into decline," he said. The measures include new factories and road improvements.

# Antarctic ship row

Reports that HMS Endeavour, the Antarctic survey vessel, is to be withdrawn from service have led George Foulkes, an Opposition foreign affairs spokesman, to demand government clarification of the situation. He said, after tabling a question in the Commons, that it seemed as if decisions about the ship were being made without consultation with the Foreign Office. Reports that the Endeavour was to be withdrawn after 35 years' service led to angry exchanges in the Lords late on Wednesday.

# Blatch's role

Lady Blatch, the newly promoted minister of state at the environment department, has taken over responsibility for heritage matters, Michael Heseltine, the secretary of state, announced.

# Parliament next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week is expected to be:

Monday: Armed forces bill, remaining stages.

Tuesday: Debate on an Opposition motion on the water industry.

Wednesday: Planning and compensation bill, remaining stages.

Thursday: Northern Ireland (emergency provisions) bill, Lords amendments and motion on Northern Ireland Act extension.

Friday: Debate on private member's motion.

The main business in the House of Lords is expected to be:

Monday: Northern Ireland (emergency provisions) bill, third reading.

Tuesday: Disability living allowance and disability working allowance bill, Commons amendments. New roads and street works bill, Commons amendments. Coal mining subsidence bill, committee.

Wednesday: Debate on manufacturing industry.

Thursday: Local government finance and valuation bill, second reading.

Friday: Teachers' pay and conditions bill, second reading. Badgers bill and badgers (further protection) bill, committee stages.

**Parliament today**

Commons (9.30): Debate on private member's motion on taxation policy.

Lords (11): Atomic weapons establishment bill, second reading.





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| VIDEO LIGHT  | ✓                        | X                    | X               | X            | X                  |
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# Communism is main loser as Russian electorate backs the radicals

## Yeltsin win casts doubt on accord with Gorbachev

FROM MARY DEBEVSKY IN MOSCOW

BORIS Yeltsin's decisive victory in the Russian presidential election prompted two conflicting forecasts yesterday.

One held that his win would spur him to renew his rivalry with President Gorbachev and to drive a harder bargain for Russia's share of Soviet assets. The other predicted that Mr Yeltsin's success would strengthen Mr Gorbachev's hand in dealing with conservative opposition, sustaining his new alliance with his rival and accelerating reform.

That the result could produce such different assessments shows how little is really known about the characters and aspirations of Mr Gorbachev and Mr Yeltsin. The first forecast assumes that the Russian leader will stop at nothing to achieve overall power; the

second assumes that Mr Gorbachev is a reformer at heart, or at least enough of a democrat to adapt his policies to the popular will.

Mr Yeltsin's stature has undoubtedly been enhanced. He is the first Russian leader to submit himself for popular election and he won handsomely. Mr Gorbachev is not elected, except by a narrow majority in a two-thirds elected assembly, and he may never achieve the popular mandate that Mr Yeltsin has been accorded.

The only other definite conclusion to be drawn is that Mr Yeltsin's personal victory was a defeat for the Soviet establishment. The third place given to Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, the only other non-Communist, confirms that most Russians, particularly in the cities, have abandoned communism.

Voters wanted neither the old-style party represented by Nikolai Ryzhkov, nor the new-style party of Vadim Bakarin.

The silence of the Soviet leaders during the campaign suggests it expected an easy win for Mr Yeltsin and wanted to avoid the election turning into a vote of confidence for or against the Kremlin. They were largely successful. Whether or not Mr Yeltsin's victory will change anything, either in the overall balance of Soviet power or in the Russian Federation is, however, a different matter.

The turning point in the central balance of power occurred on April 23, when the "nine-plus-one" agreement between the republics and the centre brought Mr Gorbachev and Mr Yeltsin together again. Increasingly, this can be seen as the beginning of a real devolution of power to the republics.

It is within the Russian Federation that there is potential for both the most and the least change in Mr Yeltsin's political fortunes. The president's powers, set out in the republic's newly amended constitution and its law on the presidency, include the right to issue decrees. They do not, however, include the right to dismiss officials for not obeying them, nor can he nominate leaders of parliament or members of the new constitutional court.

The next battle for Mr Yeltsin and his team is for control of the Russian parliament. He has been repeatedly thwarted during the past six months in his attempts to pass radical reform legislation, and his popular mandate will not necessarily alter that.

Some believe that election to the executive presidency of Russia will prove to be Mr Yeltsin's undoing, exposing him to more critical scrutiny abroad and requiring him at least to deliver some improvement in the Russian economy. No longer, it is said, will he be able to blame others, and his honeymoon will be short. This view is probably incorrect. Mr Yeltsin's many supporters will continue to blame his findings on the plotting of his opponents.

● Enquiry ordered: The disciplinary committee of the Soviet Communist Party has ordered an investigation into remarks made by Eduard Shevardnadze, the former Soviet foreign minister, during a visit to Vienna this week.

Mr Shevardnadze, still officially a member of the Communist party's central committee in spite of his resignation as foreign minister last December, appealed for the creation of a new democratic party.

Yeltsin victory, page 1  
Letters, page 19

## Voters in middle Russia reject the old systems

FROM ROBERT SEELY IN NOVOZYBKOV

IN THE rural areas and towns of middle Russia, Boris Yeltsin is king. In this sleepy town southwest of Moscow, he polled nearly 60 per cent of the vote, with his nearest rival, Nikolai Ryzhkov, well behind with 17 per cent. The other four candidates failed even to reach double figures.

According to the town's deputy mayor, Vladimir Peshchakov, Mr Yeltsin won because of his progressive thinking and the new laws he introduced as leader of Russia's parliament.

Novozybkov is typical of the sort of peaceful backwater in which Mr Ryzhkov or Vadim Bakarin, the new-style communist candidate, badly needed to win votes to stand a chance of preventing Mr Yeltsin winning outright in the first ballot. Little changed by perestroika, the town's walls still carry banners proclaiming the victory of Lenin's ideas and pictures of local "hero workers".

But, surrounded by forest and boasting rare stone buildings and ornate wooden houses, once the homes of the wealthy gentry, Novozybkov epitomises traditions dating back to the Russia of Pushkin rather than Lenin. Voters in the town say many people were alienated by the pre-election pro-Ryzhkov broadcasts of the central media.

Tatyana Zeprozbrovskaya, a retired ballet teacher and an election officer, said: "When everybody tried to attack Yeltsin the ordinary people started trusting him. We generally believe in him and place our trust in him."



Ryzhkov: media support counter-productive

"Yeltsin vividly broke away from the old system and placed himself in opposition. The people saw this and voted for him because we believe that nobody else could haul our country out of the swamps we have sunk into."

Despite some Russians supporting Mr Yeltsin because of specific programmes and reforms, most voters said they had had enough and wanted a change from the old system. Olga Zaitseva, a cook, said: "Yeltsin has energy, discipline and objectivity, unlike all the other candidates. We are hoping for a better future. We used to be a very rich part of Russia. We sold potatoes all over the country."

● Tokyo: Mr Yeltsin's victory provides a fresh unifying factor for the Soviet Union, a senior Japanese finance ministry official said. Every country was likely to find it hard to fathom the future Soviet situation, he was quoted as saying by the Jiji Press news agency.



Putting the clock back: a poster spells out the city's changing history, with St Petersburg 1703, Petrograd 1914, Leningrad 1924, 1991? Heated debates erupted in the streets on Wednesday when the voters were asked in a referendum whether the original name bestowed on the city by Peter the Great should be restored

## Lenin's city of revolution chooses return to its imperial identity

What's in a name? Bruce Clark reports on the vote by a narrow majority of Leningrad's citizens to go back to the pre-revolutionary title of St Petersburg

THE people of Russia's second city, known as Leningrad for the past 67 years, have voted narrowly in favour of restoring its pre-revolutionary name of St Petersburg.

The vote, by 55 per cent to 43 per cent, carries no immediate legal force but will create moral pressure for the early implementation of the change of name by the Russian parliament, to which the city council is now expected to appeal.

The city's citizens could be the victims of bitter local disputes since Communists have argued that only the Congress of People's Deputies, the supreme national legislature, is entitled to endorse the switch. But the renunciation of Lenin's name in the city where he launched the Bolshevik revolution probably marks the most spectacular rejection to date of the symbols of communism by Soviet voters. It also represents an unexpected triumph for the prominent Leningrad citizens who have been campaigning to boost foreign interest in the city, revive its cultural life, and restore its status as Russia's cosmopolitan window on the West.

Natasha Kladtsova, political editor of the respected local weekly, *Chas Pk*, said: "We are all delighted but also cautious, because none of us anticipated this result. This is an historic day, not just for us but for the world." But the verdict was met with dismay by Communists in the city and across the country, who have argued passionately that current res-

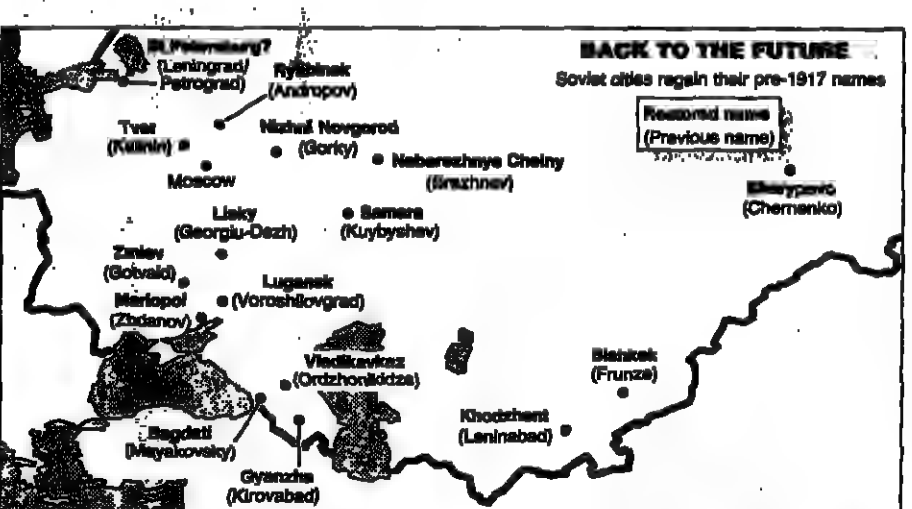
idents of the municipality, many of whom were born elsewhere, have no moral right to change its name. Communist councillors called the result invalid because the wording on the ballot paper had been too confusing.

From President Gorbachev down, they have insisted that reversion to St Petersburg would be a gross insult to those who defended it during the 900-day German siege of Leningrad. The results of Wednesday's vote were a double success for Anatoli Sobchak, the city council chief, who was elected as executive mayor with enhanced powers by 65.5 per cent, against 26 per

cent for Yuri Sevemard, his Communist rival. Gary Kasparov, the world chess champion who is also a radical politician in Russia, is reported to have offered \$2 million to help pay for the name change, to silence the arguments of those who say it will be an absurd extravagance for a city where poverty is widespread. Mr Sobchak, a professor of jurisprudence, has sought to reassure older residents that returning to the older name does not mean insulting the memory of Lenin, who will still be remembered by statues and monuments all over the city.

However, Nadezhda Naivkot, an effervescent lady who runs the St Petersburg Society in one of the fairytale baroque buildings flanking Smolny cathedral, declared triumphantly that the name of Leningrad would soon be forgotten. "A name should be forever. Rome is called eternal because it has survived all its trials and tribulations, and so it should be with St Petersburg," she said. Her society includes several descendants of an equally exclusive association that flourished in tsarist times. Its re-emergence is typical of the surge in interest in pre-revolutionary traditions.

The name of St Petersburg, or Sankt-Peterburg, was given to the city by Peter the Great, who founded it in 1703. After a change to Petrograd in 1914, it was named Leningrad in 1924.

Diary, page 18  
Leading article, page 19

## Kremlin missiles still in Germany

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BORN

THE Soviet Union is continuing to keep "a certain number" of nuclear missiles at some of its bases in east Germany, Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, the foreign minister, confirmed here yesterday after talks with Hans-Dietrich Genscher, his German counterpart.

Last week Marshal Dmitri Yarov, the Soviet defence minister, had denied that any such missiles existed when he was challenged by Klaus Töpfer, the German environment minister, during a visit to the Soviet Union. He had also

denied German claims that there were chemical weapons at the bases as well. The foreign minister refused to comment on that yesterday.

Mr Bessmertnykh, however, said the nuclear missiles were being withdrawn gradually and that Germany would be notified as soon as this was over. Germany has offered to provide technical assistance to help remove any chemical weapons, but there has been no response to this so far. All Soviet troops are scheduled to leave east Germany by 1994.

Under the Intermediate-

range Nuclear Forces treaty all medium-range nuclear missiles should have been withdrawn from Germany by now. The weapons still in east Germany are therefore likely to be short-range battlefield weapons. Germany has inherited 24 SS23 missiles from the former east German government. These have no warheads and will be dismantled over the next two years.

During talks over two days, the foreign ministers concentrated on preparations for next week's Berlin meeting of the 34-member Conference on

Security and Co-operation in Europe. Both leaders said yesterday that they had agreed on the need to strengthen it.

Mr Bessmertnykh said he looked forward to seeing new security structures for one Europe, stretching from the Atlantic to the Urals. He did, however, accept that existing structures, including Nato, "have a right to exist for a transitional period".

There was also considerable discussion about the level of economic aid that Moscow is seeking from the West, but both ministers refrained from revealing details. Asked what might be on offer when President Gorbachev attends the summit of seven leading industrialised nations next month in London, Herr Genscher said he was not authorised to speak on behalf of the six other countries. Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, is scheduled to visit Moscow before the London summit to discuss Mr Gorbachev's economic problems.

Before yesterday's session with Mr Bessmertnykh, Herr Genscher met the former Soviet foreign minister, his "old friend" Eduard Shevardnadze, who resigned at the end of last year and has since written a book called *The Future Belongs to Freedom*, which he launched at a news conference here yesterday.

## Spain takes inflexible line over Gibraltar

FROM DOMINIC SEARLE IN GIBRALTAR

SPAIN'S determination to seek the return of Gibraltar seems undiminished. In an interview with the *Gibraltar Chronicle* published yesterday, Francisco Fernández Ordóñez, the Spanish foreign minister, accused Britain of "occupying" the isthmus on which the Rock's airport is built.

He went on to deny recent reports that Spain had put forward proposals for permanent joint sovereignty. His position blocks efforts by Joseph Bossano, Gibraltar's chief minister, to find alternative forums to the 1984 Bixaro agreement for pursuing local co-operation.

Gibraltar refuses to participate in talks under that agreement because the question of sovereignty can be raised, even though Britain insists that would never hand over the territory against the wishes of Gibraltarians, a commitment enshrined in the colony's 1969 constitution.

Instead, Mr Bossano suggests that Gibraltar's future lies within a federal Europe, where its sovereignty would be surrendered to Brussels.



Cresson: trying to defuse racial tension

## Sports offer for deprived

Paris - Edith Cresson's government, anxious to contain clashes between French police and deprived youths, plans to build 1,000 sports grounds in poorer suburbs over a period of 18 months. Half will be completed this year, some of them before high summer when authorities fear an explosion of violence involving young people unable to go on holiday.

A Moroccan youth has been charged with murdering the policewoman who was run down by a stolen car last weekend. Two others were charged with stealing cars and attacking police. (Reuter)

## MPs cave in on Warsaw poll law

FROM ROGER BOYES IN WARSAW

THE prospect of Poland holding its first fully free elections in the autumn receded yesterday after the parliament accepted President Walesa's veto of its law setting out voting methods. The delay enhances the power of the president, who is acting more and more independently of parliament.

By a vote of 257 to 126, the lower house of the Polish parliament (the Sejm) decided to accept Mr Walesa's criticism of the law. The bill now has to be drafted again and although presidential aides say the work can be completed in time for an October election, many parliamentarians are sceptical.

The main effect of yesterday's vote is to increase the room for political intervention by President Walesa. As long as a general election is put off he can expand his already considerable power base.

The Sejm still has a large block of ex-communist deputies with seats guaranteed under a now-defunct round-table agreement between the then-communist authorities and the Solidarity opposition. The logical move is to dissolve parliament, but there can be no election until parliament passes an election law defining

the exact mix of voting methods. By using his presidential veto on the admittedly unsatisfactory election law drafted and approved by parliament, Mr Walesa has prolonged the life of the Sejm.

A lame-duck parliament actually fits well into Mr Walesa's scheme of things. He has already proposed that the government be given special emergency powers to impose outstanding economic legislation. Some 27 economic reform laws are held up in parliament where there is a big log-jam of new legislation. Now the government, which is Mr Walesa's creation, and the president himself can bypass parliament and settle disputes without having to go through institutional channels. President Walesa told Solidarity union leaders on Wednesday that he was ready to use force or rule by decree to prevent anarchy in Poland.

Jack Kuron, a former labour minister, told parliament yesterday that his centre-left grouping within Solidarity would do everything to meet the October deadline. One legislative possibility is that the parliament suspend the one-month cooling-off period after a piece of legislation is passed.

## Soviet leader invited to G7

London - President Gorbachev has been formally invited to attend next month's G7 summit of leading industrialised nations in London (Robin Oakley writes). But the Soviet leader will be offered advice rather than cash; government sources made it plain last night that no "pots of gold" were being considered.

Mr Gorbachev, who is anxious to use the opportunity of meeting leaders from Britain, France, Germany, the United States, Canada, Italy and Japan to press for economic aid, will not participate in the summit proper. Instead, he has been asked to come on the morning of July 17 for a working session followed by lunch with the participants.

## Ban on traps

Luxembourg - Environment ministers have agreed to ban steel-toothed animal traps from being used in the European Community from 1993. However, the ministers are likely to decide that fur from certain animals caught in such traps in non-member countries will be allowed into the community until 1995.

## Open files

Bonn - Victims of the Stasi, the former East German secret police, will be able to study their personal files and discover who informed on them, as a result of a draft law which has been introduced in the Bundestag with backing from the government and opposition. It is expected to take effect in the autumn.

## Royal right

Brussels - The Belgian parliament has approved a constitutional change to allow women to accede to the throne for the first time since the country gained its independence in 1830. The constitution will, however, still refer to the monarch as king. Princess Astrid, aged 28, is third in line to the throne. (Reuter)

## Train murders

Moscow - Four Soviet soldiers and two civilians have been found murdered in a luggage van on the Trans-Siberian express, apparently as a result of a violent brawl, a spokesman for the Interior Ministry's office at Krasnoyarsk said. He could give no other details pending an investigation. (Reuter)

## Bill opposed

Madrid - Opposition parties and human rights organisations condemned a proposal by the government to give police wide-ranging powers. The bill would eliminate the need for search warrants in drugs cases and allow police to hold citizens as long as necessary, in a measure aimed at tackling terrorism.

## Picassos stolen

Zurich - Two uninsured pictures by Picasso, estimated to be worth a combined \$24 million, were stolen from a Zurich art gallery. Police said they were looking for three suspects in the gallery on Tuesday. The pictures were a drawing, *The Sitting Woman*, and a gouache painting, *St Cristo de Montmartre*. (AP)

## Reformer leads Albanian party

FROM LIAM McDOWALL IN TIRANA

FATOS Nano, the former prime minister of Albania, was elected leader yesterday of the newly named Socialist Party of Albania (previously the Party of Labour of Albania) which had ruled the country uninterrupted since the end of second world war until being brought down by a national strike last week.

In his speech of acceptance, which closed the faction-ridden congress, Mr Nano, a recognised reformer, announced that "the epochs of dictatorship and political excesses ... were closed for-

ever". His ambition, he said, was to "unite the party and to ensure it remains one of the major political forces in the country". Until elections in May next year Albania is to be ruled by leading radical reformers associated with the Democratic party and more cautious reformers, headed by the prime minister, Ylli Bufi, a close associate of Mr Nano.

The extent of difficulties facing the new government, the inheritance of a Stalinist system which virtually cut the country off from the outside world, and six months of

unrest which brought the country to the brink of civil war was described by Mr Bufi yesterday as catastrophic.

● Rome - Gianni De Michelis, the Italian foreign minister, flew to Albania yesterday to urge the new government to stop the exodus of citizens to Italy and to offer economic aid in exchange for an agreement. Almost 750 refugees are in the Italian ports of Trieste, Ravenna, Ancona and Brindisi, confined on ships which had picked them up from makeshift camps in the Adriatic.



# White House takes protective wrapper off Kuwaiti regime



Hollings: what were the pluses from the victory?

IT HAS taken four months, but the Bush administration has finally acknowledged that Kuwait's ruling al-Sabah family, restored to power by half a million allied soldiers, was not "the optimum type of regime" as James Baker, the Secretary of State, put it this week. The weasel words would have done credit to a Whitehall mandarin, but it was nevertheless an admission, and a long-overdue break with the "see no evil, hear no evil" attitude to which the administration has clung since the Gulf war's end.

*After reports from Kuwait of torture, press censorship, expulsions and questionable trials, Americans get an admission from their government, Martin Fletcher writes*

been chaotic. Palestinians in Kuwait were widely reported to have been tortured and killed, and trials of alleged Iraqi collaborators fell far short of Western judicial standards.

"Mickey Mouse approach" to extinguishing 450 still-blasting oil wells.

Kuwaiti actions, but openly to denounce them would, among other things, risk tarnishing a great military victory. The administration's public reaction has hence been muted at best, usually consisting of claims that reports could not be substantiated or were still being investigated by the American embassy.

"I think our willingness to shed American blood in the Persian Gulf for these oil-rich monarchies permits us to expect progress toward democracy and economic development," he told *The Washington Post*. "To those who say this might offend those Gulf monarchies, I say that promoting democracy should not be an offence to anyone. It seems like the least we can expect."

Even Mr Baker ended up defending the Kuwaiti royal family this week. It was not the "optimum type of regime; it doesn't follow our standards and it's not a fully fledged democracy", he admitted, but "they're going to hold elections and they're talking about giving women the vote". If you had suggested a year ago that that might happen "people would have thought you're crazy". In liberating Kuwait, Mr Baker added, almost as an afterthought, "we protected our vital interests in the Gulf".

## America tells UN of Iraq's hidden nuclear facilities

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE United States has approached the United Nations with information from a defector about hidden nuclear weapons research facilities in Iraq, said to include a laboratory buried in a mountainside near the Turkish border.

United Nations sources said the discussions took place recently but there had not yet been a formal American request for it to investigate. The UN special commission responsible for supervising the destruction of Iraq's non-conventional arms and nuclear weapons capability would respond positively to any such request, the sources said.

forces in northern Iraq last month. According to US reports, the scientist had told American intelligence that Iraq's secret nuclear weapons programme remained intact and that Baghdad was continuing its effort to build a nuclear bomb. The defector claimed that President Saddam Hussein planned to finish the bomb this year.

Western diplomats said that in the first independent report from the area, the group said it came across unusual military activity about 60 miles north-west of Basra. But the activity was described as "minor".

The UN team also estimated a considerably lower number of Shia Muslims had taken refuge in the area than previously believed. The group said about 10,000 Shia Muslims were hiding in the marshes and about 30,000 in an area just to the north.

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## Hurd consults Iran on Shias

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

DOUGLAS Hurd, the foreign secretary, telephoned his Iranian opposite number on Wednesday to ask him about events in southern Iraq, the Foreign Office said yesterday. Mr Hurd had a 15-minute discussion with Ali Akbar Velayati about reported threats against Shia Muslims.

Wednesday that Iran could not be indifferent to any Iraqi offensive. He also telephoned Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, to express concern.

But Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, the UN special envoy, said there were no unusual military movements, and figures of up to 700,000 refugees seeking safety in the marshes were greatly exaggerated.

A London-based Arabic newspaper has published the transcript of a talk President Saddam Hussein gave to his generals on the eve of the Gulf war in which he said he was guided by God. He added that he believed, in spite of American air superiority, that the Iraqi army could beat the allied forces.

He told them during a secret visit to occupied Kuwait on January 15: "All you need is that your weapons and soldiers stay under the ground and this advantage will be over." Talking about his invasion of Kuwait, he added: "The decision was that of God Almighty. God wanted to restore right to its owners." The remarks were taped and smuggled to London by Kurdish sources, where they were published by *Al-Hayat*, a Saudi-owned newspaper circulating widely in the Arab world.

British officials said they still had no evidence of any impending attack by the Iraqis, but Mr Hurd had assured the Iraqis that Britain would continue to monitor the situation. Daawa, the Iraqi opposition party, said yesterday that military operations against the Shias had been suspended in response to international pressure.

The Iraqis have increased their efforts to mobilise international efforts for the Shias. President Rafsanjani said on

Wednesday that Iran could not be indifferent to any Iraqi offensive. He also telephoned Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, to express concern.



Breathing exercise: Teenage students in Angeles City in the Philippines trying not to breathe in ash and smoke belched out by Mount Pinatubo, which for the second consecutive day yesterday sent a mushroom cloud of noxious gases and solid debris, including heavy rocks, 15 miles into the air.



Poll punishment: a policeman at Nalanda, in the northern state of Bihar, beating a fraudulent voter during the second phase of India's general election. At least eight people have been killed in ballot violence in Bihar

## Gunmen wound Indian TV chief

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

GUNMEN shot and wounded Shiv Sharma, the director-general of state-run Indian television, yesterday. Police blamed Sikh extremists who are waging a campaign against the government's decision to order elections in the predominantly Sikh state of Punjab.

Eleven candidates for the Punjab state assembly elections have been killed in recent weeks, and campaigning for simultaneous national polls on June 22 has been seriously hampered by threats.

Chandra Shekhar, the outgoing prime minister, described yesterday's attack as an act of madness which created "a psychology of uncertainty for the country". He said the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi last month could be part of a "grand design" to destabilise India. The hand of foreign forces could not be ruled out.

The director-general was being driven to work in Delhi when four men in a white van carried out the attack. His driver was shot dead and two bodyguards wounded. Mr Sharma received two bullet wounds in his shoulder. The attackers were chased by a police motorcyclist but got away. The government tightened security at all television and radio installations.

There was more violence in the northern state of Bihar yesterday but few reports of election-related trouble elsewhere.

TOKYO NOTEBOOK by Joanna Pitman

## Japanese go overboard for slimline Cresson

Edith Cresson, the new French prime minister, who has routinely assailed the Japanese for their "hermetically sealed markets", might be surprised to find that she has managed to penetrate one corner of the Japanese leisure market. A brand of skimpy swimwear bearing the Cresson name is selling fast in Tokyo boutiques.

This is something of a pyrrhic victory for the combative Mme Cresson. For a start, the swimwear is made by a Gallic-sounding Japanese company called Descende, rather than a Japanese-sounding French one. To ruffle her elegant feathers further and tempt her to repeat her famous statement that Japan is an enemy of the French people, Mutsuo Sakaguchi, of Descende, says that the name was chosen "because watercrest - the English translation of 'cresson' in Japanese - is always served in Japanese restaurants to dress up a beefsteak. So we thought Cresson bikinis would be appropriate to decorate the human flesh. It should make ladies look more delicious."

That said, Cresson swimwear sells astonishingly well and advertising of the Cresson name might develop further, now that one Osaka-based lingerie firm has begun to send models to inch their way up and down crowded subway trains every morning, to great effect.

Descende is predicting sales of 2.6 billion yen (about £10 million) this year, and the firm is overjoyed that it chose the name three years ago. Mr Sakaguchi believes that the French prime minister's reputation as the nemesis of

every Japanese businessman will not curb sales. Mme Cresson, meanwhile, continues to plague Japanese politicians and bureaucrats with her diatribes against what she claims are unfair Japanese business practices.

Several pages in *Aera*, the popular weekly magazine, were devoted this week to Japan-bashing, and included a cartoon of her as William Tell, aiming arrows at a rising sun.

Foreigners may be astonished at the large sums of money sitting around in Japanese media organs, but then money sloshes around everywhere in Tokyo. A Japanese food company has persuaded millions to start drinking the stuff in the form of its new soft drink, named Moge.

When it comes to naming Japanese soft drinks, anything goes, and the more unsavoury the name, it would seem, the better the sales. Among the less tempting beverages on offer this summer are Green Banana Fizz, Pocari Sweat, Calpis and Asacan, and Mucous was curiously popular last year.

Pick-me-up tonic drinks have created a market worth almost £300 million a year in Japan. If disgruntled names fail to arrest the attention of the consumers, marketing teams could do worse than adopt the strategy of Suntory Whisky. This firm has recently completed an advertising campaign that relied on subway poster advertisements talking to weary commuters on their way home.

"Welcome home!" declared a voice every few seconds from a poster picture of a bottle of Suntory Old. "How about a tipple?" it went on. These harried workers who had not already indulged to capacity, apparently found the talking bottle hard to resist.

## New peace mission denied by Baker

Washington - James Baker, the American Secretary of State, met David Levy, his Israeli counterpart, yesterday and denied reports that President Bush was considering inviting Middle East foreign ministers to a special meeting. Mr Levy was in Washington to explain his government's rejection last week of US proposals to convene an Arab-Israeli peace conference.

Before their meeting Mr Baker denied Israeli media reports that he planned another trip to the Middle East in search of peace or that Mr Bush intended asking foreign ministers of Israel, Syria, Jordan, Egypt and Lebanon to his retreat at Camp David.

"The minister and I will be talking about our mutual efforts to develop a process for peace and we intend to continue those efforts," Mr Baker said. Mr Levy said it was unthinkable that the peace initiative should fail after all the effort that had been invested in it. (Reuters)

## Licence threat

Hong Kong - Service companies could have their operating licences withdrawn when China takes over Hong Kong in 1997, Guo Fengmin, a Chinese negotiator on the colony's future, said. His statement was seen as a threat particularly to broadcasters and telephone and bus companies.

## Husain home

Amman - King Husain of Jordan, aged 57, left hospital after being treated for an irregular heart beat. "As you can see his majesty is in perfect shape and spirit," a palace official said outside the hospital. He was accompanied by Queen Noor, who has stayed in hospital with him since Monday night. (Reuters)

## Pipeline plea

Ankara - Iraq and Turkey could soon restore bilateral relations, Tariq Aziz, the deputy prime minister of Iraq, said after a 24-hour visit here to ask for the reopening of an oil pipeline that had provided half of Baghdad's hard currency before the invasion of Kuwait. (AFP)

## Rwanda fighting

Nairobi - Rebels of the Rwandan Patriotic Front have bombarded government garrisons in the northern Rubengeri region near Uganda, the official Rwanda radio has reported. There have also been reports from the Ugandan capital that fighting has resumed after the collapse of a ceasefire signed on March 29.

## Tamils killed

Colombo - Government troops have shot, hacked and beaten to death 166 Tamil adults and children in eastern Sri Lanka after three soldiers died in a landmine explosion for which Tamil rebels were blamed, residents said. (AP)

## Fatal attraction

Hanoi - About 300 people have been murdered or have died in rockfalls in collapsing mine tunnels in a frenzied search for rubies in central Vietnam, according to the official newspaper, *Lao Dong*. Tens of thousands of people flocked to the area after a ruby was discovered there last year. (Reuters)

## Unions' plight

Geneva - Seventy-two countries violate trade union rights, and during the past 15 months 247 union militants have been killed, the International Confederation of Free Trades Unions said here. More than half of the deaths occurred in Colombia, the organisation said. (AFP)



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Kate Muir talks to Derek Hatton about politics, business, Liverpool, and the portrayal of the flash council leader in a new television drama series

# Degsy and the facts about the fiction

Alan Bleasdale is much on Derek Hatton's mind. Mr Hatton is not pleased with Mr Bleasdale and in particular his new Channel 4 drama, *G.B.H.* He is a touch ornery about the portrayal of a certain character similar to himself.

Derek "Degsy" Hatton gives his opinions over the breakfast silver at the Hampshire hotel in Leicester Square. Outside the window, the words *The Godfather - Part III* flash up on the Empire cinema. Like the stars of the film, Mr Hatton likes to dress nice: the crisp white shirt, the silk Yves Saint Laurent tie, the Hugo Boss suit cut wide enough for a gun holster not to bulge, and the tan co-respondent shoes with gold buckles.

And no self-respecting celluloid don is seen without his Florida suntan, slicked back hair, cell phone, and diamond ring. Nor is Mr Hatton, the man who used to run a big city up north. Far from being the Mafia godfather he looks, he does "a bit of PR still; after-dinner speaking. I've still got bits of business going on."

Business has been less brisk since Mr Hatton was charged with conspiracy to defraud earlier this year. He denies the charges, and the trial is yet to come. But the former Militant deputy leader of Liverpool city council has a more press-

ing concern - the unpleasant depiction of the dapper left-wing leader of an unspecified northern city council in *G.B.H.* He takes a deep breath.

"I haven't met anybody, friend or foe, in Liverpool or elsewhere, who hasn't acknowledged the series is about me - apart from Alan Bleasdale. I got in a taxi in Liverpool after it went out and the first thing the driver said was: 'Didya see that play about you last night, Degs?' Obviously, it's not very nice for me personally, but it's also bad for Liverpool, because it takes the worst exaggerations from *The Sun* and the *Mirror*, and exaggerates them even more. You would never experience a group of pickets stamping on a classroom ceiling with the kids inside screaming and crying. It would never happen. I'm not detracting from Bleasdale's ability to write, but just that it builds a picture, and people around the country start to think those things really are happening in Liverpool."

The actor, Robert Lindsay, who plays the council leader straightens his tie in an uncannily Degsy-like way, he has the swagger, too. "He must have watched a lot of videos to get them just right," Mr Hatton observes.

Being pilloried and roughed up by the media is nothing new for Mr Hatton. God

probably designed him 43 years ago with that very purpose in mind, but he is finding it hard to escape the confines of his own caricature. His plight does not merit much sympathy, because it is largely of his own creation. A self-proclaimed socialist who, in better times, owned a Jaguar XJS and then a BMW with the number plate DEG5Y, can only expect the television audience to enjoy his mortification.

When Mr Hatton was disqualified as deputy leader in 1987, along with other Militant councillors, for failing to set a legal budget, he tried to change his image. An agent assured he met the right people to get ahead in the public relations business, and that he was snapped by the paparazzi leaving the Lighthouse club with numerous leggy lovelies, including kiss-and-tell Fiona Wright. But his PR company failed last year, despite a last-ditch image re-jig, when the Hatton off-duty footballer looks were swapped for the present gear.

The point about Mr Hatton is that image definitely outweighs content. He cottoned on to the fact that flashy suits maketh men long before the Labour leadership did. He has the politician's essential tool -



Image of a new man on the move: these days Derek Hatton does "a bit of PR still, after-dinner speaking. I've still got bits of business going on"

total brass neck. He was probably born with the word "quotable" stamped on his nappy.

So why is he disliked so much by so many people? "They don't just have a go at me because I'm Derek Hatton. They do it because I personally everything that happened in

Liverpool at that time. I personify more than anyone else, except perhaps Arthur Scargill, the left's attacks on the establishment, and the establishment don't like that so they've got to hit back."

And could the man whose heroes are Marx and Trotsky give us a bit of class analysis too? He pauses to dip a piece of mini Cumberland sausage into the yolk of his lightly poached egg, and demands another silver pot of coffee. "I can accept that the Tory establishment finds it hard that a hairy-armed fireman [his first job] can emerge and take them on in *Question Time* or whatever, but I think the snobbery of the Labour front bench is worse."

His fork is jabbing the air, and he is off. "What sickens me is the Labour front bench is becoming more and more professionalised." He puckers in disgust. "Most of them have never been active in the ordinary struggle before becoming an MP. They've no experience of the outside world and very little of the Labour movement generally, and if they get into power there'll be the most enormous split after the honeymoon of the first six months. People will say we've had the Tories, and now we want some good ideas - better pay, better education, better nurseries, and they won't be able to deliver

because they don't know what people want and they don't know how to manage. They will probably do far more harm to Britain than the Tories."

Hold on. The Militant socialist has just (indirectly) praised the Conservatives. Drowning in his own disillusionment, he thinks people will not see the point of voting Labour any more if it only does a worse job at managing the system than the Tories. "If you're going to stay within a capitalist system, the best managers of it will be a capitalist party. You might as well sit back and vote Tory and have done with it."

He sits back, looking like a big sleek seal, replete with breakfast and arrogance. He orders a toothpick. He ventures that disillusionment similar to his own has set in in parts of Liverpool, which is why he expects the "broad left" to give the Labour party a tough battle in the forthcoming Walton by-election, following the death of Eric Heffer. The broad left, aka Mostly Militant, is standing Lesley Mahood against the official Labour candidate, Peter Kilfoyle.

"Lesley's got a massive show of support. The broad left has already won five out of six council seats against the official Labour candidates, which is a hard thing to do. No one was fooled. They knocked on the doors and explained why they were standing against Labour. If there was one thing we did on the council, it was develop a political consciousness." They used to joke that every pub had a city treasurer, because Liverpoolians talked as much about council finances as they did about football.

Mr Hatton considers this a compliment rather than an insult, not considering the appalling financial mess of his reign and subsequent government intervention might have anything to do with the interest. He has a childish innocence - it was a game, and now it is over. He is not interested in returning to power: "I'm a great Everton supporter, and to draw an analogy from that, I was the centre forward on the pitch, scoring the goals. I gave 101 per cent, 25 hours a day. I believed passionately in it and took politics as far as it would go, but there comes a time

when you can't score goals so you might as well get off the pitch."

A sensible move, since he has been banned from holding local government office for five years, and was expelled from the Labour party in 1986. Like many politicians fallen on hard times, he is enjoying spending more time with his family - his wife, Shirley, and four children. At weekends he watches his son play for Liverpool Schoolboys, or drives a horsebox around the country when his daughter goes showjumping. "All this stuff about glamour girls is rubbish. I'd much rather spend time at home. I love it, and I'd shoot someone who got in the way of it."

But Mr Hatton would clearly waste away if completely deprived of the oxygen of publicity. What other job provides the same opportunities as politics for showing off? Acting. The Hatton theatrical career began last year, when he played (surprise) a flash Harry in a Sekonda watch advertisement. Rumoured fee: £50,000. This year, his agent asked him if he fancied doing a bit of pantomime, more than 30 offers came in. "Mostly villains," he says, resigned. "I'm playing King Rat at the Tameside theatre in Manchester for six weeks. It was the only part I didn't have to act for."

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## Gordons prepare for battle

Defence cuts may defeat the Highland regiment

IN HIS book of fictional short stories, *The General Dances At Dawn*, George MacDonald Fraser described how the officers' mess of a Highland regiment danced a one-hundred-and-twenty-eight-some reel in north Africa, at the behest of an inspecting general. This is a highly embellished tale of an event in Tripoli at the end of the second world war. The regiment, although never named, was the Gordon Highlanders.

In spite of frequent cuts in defence spending since the war, the Gordons have never been touched. Indeed, they have avoided any form of interference since 1881. Largely for this reason, commentators have cast their eyes over the regiment as a suitable case for pruning in the forthcoming cuts.

But as Major David White, the regimental secretary of the Gordons, points out: "There are only seven regiments in the Scottish division, so inevitably we must attract attention."

The Council of Scottish Colonels meets in London today and will make its recommendations to the defence ministry.

Of the seven Scottish regiments, four - the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, the Queen's Own Highlanders, the Black Watch, and the Gordons - are distinctively Highland. In past amalgamations, it has always been within brigades: Lowland to Lowland, Highland to Highland.

Inevitably, supporters of Highland regiments, including former government ministers George Younger (ex-Army) and Sir Hector Monro (long associated with



Gordon Highlanders officers in 1927

the Camerons and Queen's Own), and Alick Buchanan-Smith, the MP for Kincardine and Deeside (Gordons), are preparing the statistical arguments for leaving the Highland regiments well alone.

The Gordons' recruiting area was, and is, the cold, isolated northeast shoulder of Scotland, the counties of Kincardineshire, Aberdeenshire and Banffshire. The insularity of the Gordons' homeland

produced a strong sense of local identity. Duchess Jean, wife of the 4th Duke of Gordon, is said to have ridden into these lands in 1794, promising a kiss and a guinea to every man who would join her husband's recently constituted colours.

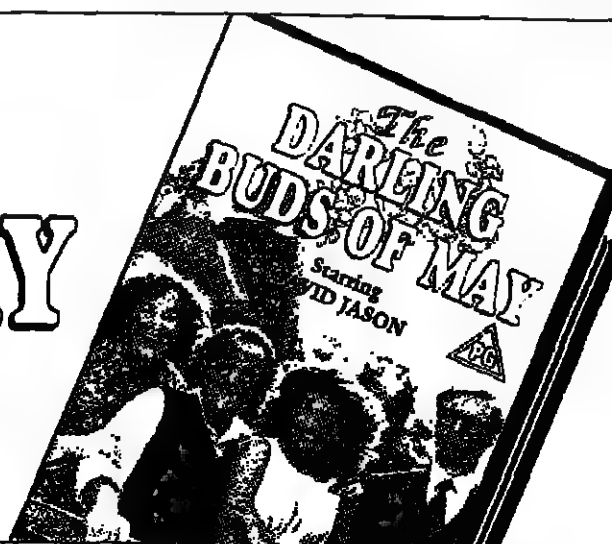
It was a romantic start to a bloody history. A charge at Waterloo seemed decisive. In Afghanistan, the Gordons stormed the heights of Dargay to their march "Cock o' the North", played by the wounded piper Findlater. After their charge on Dornop in South Africa, Winston Churchill wrote: "There is no doubt that they are the finest regiment in the world..." By the armistice of 1918, 29,000 officers and men had died. In 1940, two battalions were forced to surrender in France. A year later, a third battalion was captured in Singapore. But they rose again: north Africa, Italy, Germany, and after the war Malaya, Cyprus, Kenya, and Northern Ireland.

But history, however glorious, cannot save a regiment from its future. The possibility that the Gordons could go is sinking in. "The government would find itself facing an extremely broad-based campaign if something was proposed which people did not agree with," Mr Buchanan-Smith warns.

The Conservative party candidate in South Aberdeen has had more telephone calls about the Gordons' future than he ever received over the community charge. And the fight has not even begun.

ALASTAIR ROBERTSON  
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GALLERIES: LONDON

# Four years that coloured the world

John Russell Taylor on Fauves in the Royal Academy's new Sackler Galleries, and the Chinese interiors of the V&A's T.T. Tsui Gallery

Hot on the heels of the Summer Exhibition, the Royal Academy is in the news again with a marvellous double. Not only was this the week that the Fauve Landscape exhibition opened, straight from the Metropolitan in New York, it also saw the opening of the new Sackler Galleries, in which the landscapes are exquisitely placed.

The new galleries which Norman Foster has devised to replace the old Diploma Galleries are ideal for the show. Their clean, uncluttered white walls are the perfect foil for the paintings' patches of dazzling colour, and the cool top-lighting manages to create the effect of simple daylight through a delicate and intricate system of louvres, so natural that the visitor is unconscious of the degree of manipulation going on. The Fauves need a flood of light, direct and reflected, to bring out the full vibrancy of their palette. Here they get precisely that.

The one respect in which the new galleries are not ideal for the show is their size. A glance at the massive catalogue would give the impression that this is a mammoth show. So, initially, it was. When it opened in Los Angeles it contained a staggering 171 works. By the time it arrived at the Metropolitan it had been cut by more than half, to 80. Now at the Academy it is down to 65 — partly because the galleries cannot accommodate any more.

What is left, though, is of top quality. It is reasonable that a show dedicated to a small group of painters working closely together over a short period of time (really only four years, 1904-1908) should be highly concentrated. Though a few more works would be welcome (especially a couple that for some technical reason could not leave the United States), many more might have diffused the effect.

The show also brings its surprises. In the eyes of art history, Matisse is the leading luminary of the group, and he duly gets top billing on the posters. But in the gallery, Derain is unmistakably the

star attraction. Derain has always been something of an enigma: how could he be so brilliant for four years and so boring for the rest of his long career? Inevitably there have been attempts — such as the show in Oxford last year — to revive interest in his later work. But if that show demonstrated anything, it was that his work flourished when he decided to forsake colour for classical draughtsmanship. That seems a curious, almost masochistic exercise in self-denial: he never could

*'This is a summer show of summer painting, but the warm glow that it engenders is without season'*

draw very well, but as a colourist he was unmatched.

Here, there is painting after painting, climaxing in Derain's extraordinary series of prismatic views of London and Westminster, which — even at this distance of time — takes the breath away. The sheer *joie de vivre* is so disarming that speculation about the limitations of his talent is rendered irrelevant.

Next to this show's wonderful revelation of Derain must come the detailed filling-in of Braque's early years. Again, Braque was almost immediately to renounce this lavishness of colour in favour of a style based more on control and ratiocination: there is indeed one painting in this show, *Trees at l'Estaque* of 1908, which is well on the way to the Cubist severity he was about to embrace.

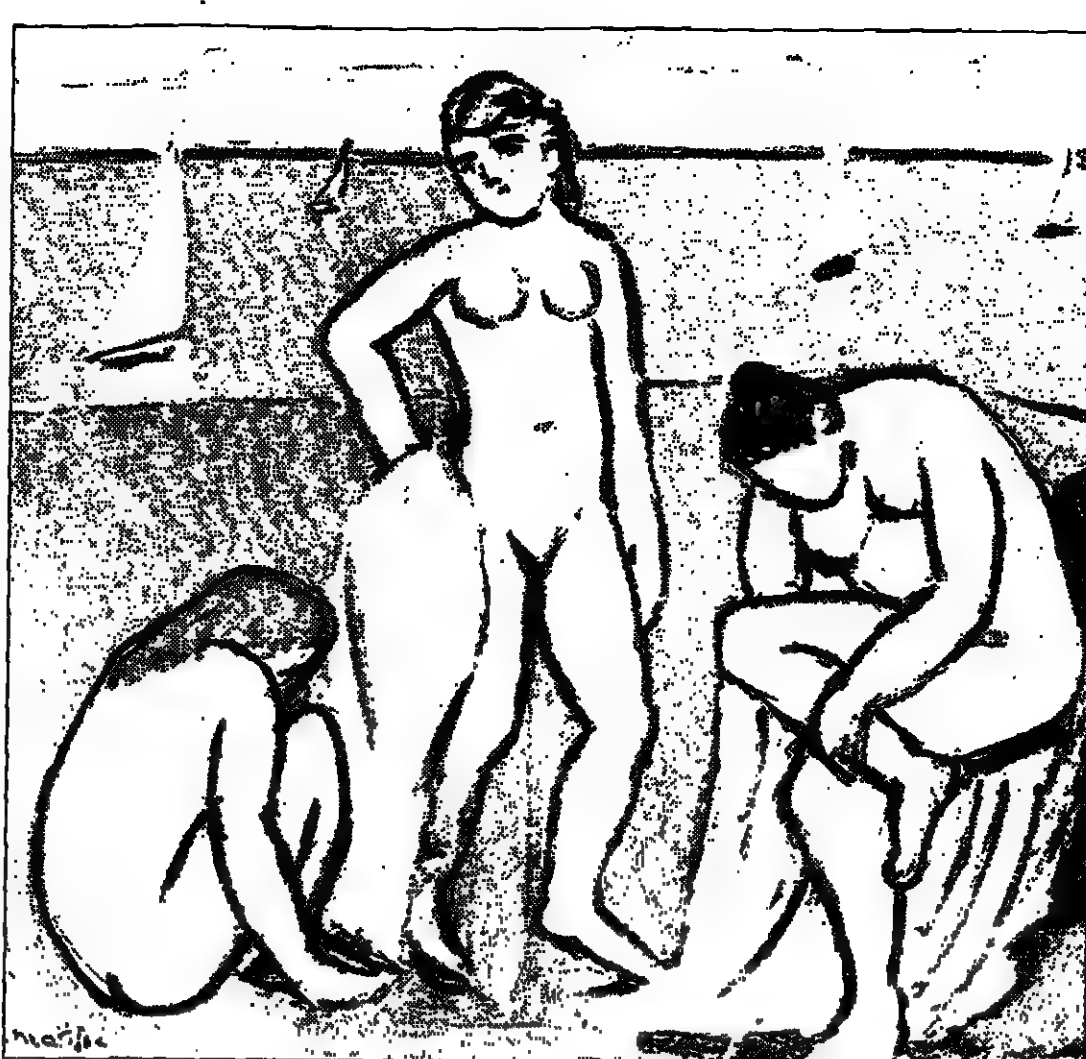
Possibly the reason the Matisse paintings do not impress as

dramatically as the Derains and the Braques is that they are better known, so that the element of surprise is lacking, and because Matisse remained true to their perceptions until the day he died. So, in a sense, did Vlaminck; but his talent coarsened and his style became more of a formula as he progressed, so that his freshest work was done at this early period. And it is a great pleasure to rediscover such admittedly lesser figures as Othon Friesz and Matisse's great friend Henri Manguin at the peak of their achievement. This is a summer show of summer painting, but the warm glow that it engenders is without season.

Norman Foster's work at the Academy does not stop at the doors of the Sackler Galleries: they are part of a master-plan which pulls the whole disorganised building of nooks, crannies and dead ends into a coherent pattern. This is done largely by opening out what was formerly a sooty light-well into a planning element which links the approach to the new galleries with the main upper lobby and over to the largely disused, till now, Norman Shaw staircase.

By exposing the garden wall of the original house and the outer wall of the grand Victorian galleries, Foster has vividly brought to life the building's history. Even the lift ride up to the Sackler Galleries becomes an enthralling journey through history.

The Academy is not the only national institution to be opening a new space this week. The solution account of the gallery's grand original scale, but ingeniously humanises it by throwing across it a depressed wooden arch to give the feeling of a temple interior. More controversial than the structural work, perhaps, is the concept of the new displays. Announcements that art history has been banished in favour of ethnographical concerns prove to be exaggerated. Little of historical import is lost by a non-chronological arrangement according to sub-



Three Bathers (1907): seaside vision by Henri Matisse, chief luminary of the Fauves, at the Royal Academy

ject, with the subject-headings all related to the role the objects played in Chinese life.

For one thing, since the gallery has five entrances it might be difficult to ensure that the visitor's route followed chronology. Nor would this necessarily help much in one of the museum's central concerns: to establish a functioning relationship with London's Chinese community. In any case, virtually none of the material on display is, by Chinese standards, art at all (just a few paintings and pieces of calligraphy). The chairs, cups and temple furnishings are beautiful indeed, but in their

original context the function was primary, and the design something which, in a civilised community, could be taken for granted. Even if the thrust of the new displays is broadly educational, one could hardly ask for instruction to be more gracefully disseminated.

The Fauve Landscape Sackler Galleries, Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, W1 (071-439 7438). Daily 10am-6pm, until September 1. Sponsored by Ford Motor Company.

T.T. Tsui Gallery of Chinese Art, Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, SW7 (071-938 8361). Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-6pm.

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## CRITIC'S CHOICE: GALLERIES

**DANCING ON THERE** seems to be no end to the number of times Degas could return to drawing his favourite corps de ballet without losing his freshness. Plenty here, along with horses and other obsessions. Edgar Degas: *The St James's Group*, 81 Jermyn St, SW1 (071-321 0233). Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, until July 5.

**OLD MASTERS** As well as drawings, this new show includes more than 30 16th century Italian paintings, including the newly rediscovered *Tintoretto, Martyrdom of St Lawrence*. Cinquanteo Walpole Gallery, 38 Dover Street, W1 (071-499 6626). Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm, until July 26.

**PRINT WORKS** Lucian Freud has regularly etched since 1946, mostly portraits. The complete 38 etchings are shown together for the first time. Sharvyn personal, like everything else he does. Lucian Freud: *The Complete Etchings* Thomas Gibson, 44 Old Bond Street, W1 (071-499 8572). Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, until July 5.

**MUTED MODERNIST** John Skeaping is best remembered as Barbara Hepworth's first husband and a fluent animal portraitist. This retrospective tries to revalue him as an early innovator: not quite successfully, but the early animal sculptures are splendid. John Skeaping Ackermann, 33 New Bond Street, W1 (071-493 3288). Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-1pm, until July 5.

**HIGH FIFTIES** John R. Barker was a successful commercial artist who died young just after he had decided to concentrate on painting. His work is very period in its spiky formalisations and discreet touches of surrealism, but fresh and individual for all that. John R. Barker: 1911-1959 Waterhouse and Dodd, 110 New Bond Street, W1 (071-491 9293). Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 11am-4pm, until July 24.

**REGENCY ROMANCE** Horace Vernet had a sharp eye for the wonders and weirdnesses of French fashionable life, and it is not for nothing that this show of 25 watercolours from the collection of the Duchesse de Berry is subtitled 'Incrayables at Marvilleuseux'. Horace Vernet 1789-1863 Hazell, Gooden & Fox, 38 Bury Street, SW1 (071-930 8422). Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, until June 21.

## Tours de force

THE marketing of Moscow ballet is surely getting out of hand: three different ballet companies from the Soviet capital will be touring Britain during September, while a fourth arrives two months later. First up are Moscow Festival Ballet, Moscow City Ballet and Moscow's 'La Classique' Ballet (making its British debut). Then comes the Moscow-based troupe led by Bolshoi star Vatslav Gordeyev; luckily, it has changed its name from the Moscow Ballet to the Russian State Ballet.

### New platform

THOSE who rue the loss of this summer's Almeida Festival may find some compensation in another festival of new music, being held from July 7 to 14 at

## Choreography

London's Arts Theatre. The eight-day 'Platform 1' features artists such as jazz keyboard player Django Bates, the percussionist Simon Limbrick, Norwegian cellist Øystein Birkeland and pianist/composer Joanna MacGregor.

### Tuneless?

TOMMY Tune's hit Broadway musical *Grand Hotel* opens in the West End on September 19, but it is unclear how the director-



Tune: dual roles

choreographer will be able to attend to the production's London rehearsals. Tune is currently touring America in a revival of *Bye Bye Birdie* which calls for him to be in Minnesota and Ohio just as *Grand Hotel* starts its previews at the Shaftesbury Theatre. Producer Les Mézières says: 'Tommy Tune is coming to London to direct the show. I can't tell you precisely when he's coming, but sometimes people can do two things at the same time.'

### Last chance...

WHERE Glasgow's Tron Theatre has turned a French-Canadian play by Michel Tremblay into broad Scots, Sheffield's Crucible (0742 769922) is playing another in rich Yorkshire. *The Good Sisters* has a cast of 15 women whose rampaging greed emerges when one of them wins a million green stamps and invites the others round for a 'lick n' stick party. This inventive production ends tomorrow.

## RECORDS: ROCK

## Success in simplicity

Cher: *Love Hurts* (Geffen BEF 24427)  
New Model Army: *Raw Melody Men* (EMI EMC 796883 2)  
Buddy Guy: *Damn Right, I've Got the Blues* (Silverstone ORE 516)

is included on the album, but too late for its presence to register on the cover artwork — yet it stands well above the MTV formula rock which predominates.

New Model Army soldier on, promoting more a way of life than a style of music. The ranks of their ragged following are swollen by a continuous trickle of new recruits, although the dam which blocks off their individualistic brand of post-punk rebel rock from the mainstream seems to be in no danger of bursting.

*Raw Melody Men* (an un-

their first album, and its sound is some way removed from the rough and tumble that the uninitiated might imagine was the norm at an Army gig. A disappointingly small showing of old numbers — 'Lib. Ed', 'Better than Them', 'Love Songs' and 'Smalltown England' — are smattered among more recent material from the *Thunder and Consolation* and *Impurity* albums. All are turned out in a neat, disciplined fashion, with violin, keyboards and acoustic guitar featuring prominently alongside the straight-arm thrust of Justin Sullivan's



Cher: slides into bathos

guitar and roaring vocals, Nelson's clanky bass and Robb Heston's clattering drum tattoos. Extravagant claims have been made in support of

Chicago veteran Buddy Guy's new album *Damn Right, I've Got the Blues*, and even Eric Clapton has described him as 'without doubt the best guitar player alive'.

Certainly there are not many performers who could rope in Clapton, Jeff Beck, Mark Knopfler and the Memphis Horns to play on their album, and Guy has mastered something of the cachet which helped to make John Lee Hooker's all-star collection *The Healer* such a success.

But he does not have Hooker's magnetic touch. A flamboyant player with a thick, greasy tone, Guy tends to rage around the fretboard with great gusto but limited coherence. The choice of songs — 'Five Long Years', 'Mustang Sally', Willie Dixon's 'Let Me Love You Baby' — is pleasant but undistinguished.

DAVID SINCLAIR

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## Pack away this old flannel

Philip Howard

It's simply not cricket. But then, it never was. Grace and Hobbes would not recognise the modern game, with helmets like bits of medieval armour, and coloured pyjamas and more persistent intimidatory bowling than was dreamt of in their philosophy. Part of *The Oxford English Dictionary* most in need of revision, since it was written more than a century ago, is the definition of cricketing terms; the wickets have been shifted by the Packer revolution, and other changes in rules and tactics.

But, pace nostalgic sentimentalists, cricket never was a very sporting game, even in its allegedly golden age. The first poem about cricket, William Goldwin's *In Certamen Pilae* of 1706, a Latin epic about a village cricket match, starts with an acrimonious argument about the rules, quite worthy of Viv Richards or Ian Botham. *Max iurgia miscuit / Civilisq; bras, quod vult imponere ludo / Quisque suas leges*: "They soon descend to insults and civil war, because each man wants to play the game by his own rules." They make our modern players look positively sporting.

So where on earth did we get the expression "It's not cricket", which makes Americans fall about as much as our stiff upper lips and loose lower jaws? The legend is that it goes back to the Puritan legislation against sport, especially never having it on Sundays. In 1622 the villagers of Boxgrove, near Chichester, were prosecuted for playing cricket on a Sunday. They complained that this was not cricket, meaning that it was not fair, not playing the game. Hence is said to come one of our more whimsical and sanctimonious sporting phrases.

I don't believe a word of it. There is no contemporary source for the story, and cricketers, like all sportsmen, are liars and fantasists. The first solid evidence for "It's not cricket" is from 1867, but it did not become widely popular until the old Queen died. Here is an early example, from *The Partners*, one of those Ibsen-esque domestic dramas by Stanley Houghton, the best of the so-called Manchester School, first performed in 1913: "It may even enable you to take high place in the ranks of the emancipated — but it is not playing the game. In other words, Cynthia, it is not cricket." The name Cynthia is as good a signpost to the date as the cricketering catch-phrase.

English is full of dreadful cricketering clichés, from sticky wickets to full tosses and googlies. They are patronising and ridiculous to non-cricketers, who are the majority of English-speakers. To be stumped, meaning to be baffled, however, has nothing to do with the irritating way of being dismissed by the wicket-keeper when you have allowed your foot to drag over the crease. It is an obsolete American cliché, derived from the stumps that the pioneers of new land had to remove from the earth after felling trees in the backwoods. Some of these stumps were so big, and their roots went down so far, that the pioneers were perplexed, and said to be stumped.

The thing to do with cricketering and other dead metaphors is to avoid them. Mrs Thatcher got her pads in a terrible tangle with cricketering clichés in her Mansion House speech, a little ere that mighty Caesars fell. Geoffrey Howe picked up the cricketering metaphor in his resignation speech, and showed that he too, with his talk of captains breaking the bats of their opponents, had only a vague idea of how the game works. Cricket is a good game. The thing to do is to play it, and if possible score a stylish century, and take a catch or two. Failing that, watch it, with a good book. But as a metaphor for life, forget it.

As Westminster Council looks for vacant property, Janet Daley calls the bluff of the homelessness lobby

## Hypocrisy and hopelessness



Desolation row: but many chose this life voluntarily

There is homelessness and homelessness. The word has become a shibboleth for opposition politicians and the "caring" media, who utter it like an accusatory incantation. If you want to sort out the genuinely concerned from the political capitalists, there is a useful key. Anyone who talks about homelessness as if it were a single phenomenon with a straightforward cause is to be distrusted.

Ironically, the most visible homelessness is probably the least serious. No one who lives in or visits London can be unaware that it is becoming the vagrancy capital of the western world. There has always been a hard core of derelicts lurking in the corners of cosmopolitan cities. But the street culture of young beggars who have become a feature of life in the West End is something else. Taken up by Labour as a totem of heartless Tory Britain, scrutinised by the press, they have become an emblem of our times.

This homelessness is a god-send for political oppositions because, being largely voluntary, it cannot be cured by government policy, so the government can always be embarrassed by them.

Officers of hostel places have come from the housing minister, Sir George Young, and even from the Metropolitan Police who recently offered 500 of their own hostel beds to those sleeping rough. But a vagabond sub-culture has grown up which now

attracts young people from all over the country, many coming from areas where employment and housing prospects are better than in recession-bound London.

Other, less sentimental ages dealt with these matters differently. The Elizabethan Poor Law made a point of returning the indigent to their home parishes so they could not congregate and overburden one locality.

Police see enforcing the laws against vagrancy and begging as futile when people processed by the magistrates' courts return to the streets the next day. Attracting drug dealers and sexual predators, these young camp-followers are a social problem for which there is no quick political solution. Any party spokesman who claims otherwise is either ill-informed or dishonest.

The high-profile young conveniently serve to muddle the issue of the more economically critical form of homelessness for which Labour councils bear so much responsibility. Westminster Council is now trying to persuade the 60 local authorities with the highest number of empty properties to accept some of its registered homeless families. The response of these councils, oddly enough, is that they have housing

waiting lists of their own.

Quite why they are incapable of connecting their own homeless with these "void and available" properties, is a question that goes to the heart of the housing problem in Britain. Why are so many homeless, often in need of only minor repair, being left vacant as a consequence of deliberate council policy? What Westminster is uncovering in its attempts to comb the country for available housing is a rather more tractable political issue.

Those who have worked with the itinerant roofless are aware of what the Salvation Army calls their "diversity". Among the most critical categories are the mentally ill, the social misfits, those whose lives have been ruined by drugs or alcohol, and the young escaping from abuse at home. In a report issued today, the Salvation Army proposes a major rescue operation for these genuine unfortunates, involving shelter, counselling and food distribution.

Many of the Salvation Army hostel residents began as victims of misfortune, or had their lives wrecked by particular calamities. When divorce or unemployment has resulted in some temporary breakdown of a person's ability to cope, or when the need to find work has made people uproot themselves, short-term constructive help may be all they need to get back on their feet.

What the Salvation Army is most anxious to prevent is the long-term dependency that such an organisation can cultivate. Having humanely offered a bed for life to anyone who needs it, they now wish to concentrate on helping people toward more "independent" lives. Recognising that homelessness is a symptom of disorientation, they want to enable people to build viable lives of their own.

Short-term management of the socially derelict must not be confused with the kind of homelessness which is really a function of perverse political policy. Given a chance, sincerely determined families or even communities of young single people could easily transform many existing empty properties into habitable homes. But of course allowing people to

do things for themselves has never been popular with local bureaucrats.

The need to control the supply of housing and to commandeer its renovation for the councils' own directly-employed labour forces has distorted the availability of homes to a disastrous extent. There is now virtually no room in the system for the kind of casual, inexpensive accommodation which is needed to offer flexibility to people whose lives are disrupted either personally or financially.

Ironically, the vitality and responsiveness of the housing market was effectively destroyed by the emphasis on security in housing under the welfare state. Now we find ourselves with an over-administered, clumsy bureaucracy attempting to deal with the housing needs of nearly half the population. Inevitably, a great many slip through its net.

The sort of homelessness which means despair is quite different from the sort which means adventure, but there are indications that the freedom of the streets is becoming a route to destruction. The police — who so far have taken a lenient attitude toward those living rough — are becoming concerned that the street culture is breeding hardened crime. Many of those who took to the streets to find freedom are finding themselves exploited and abused by others living the same life.

## Strong-armed by democracy

Yeltsin's election is part of a craving for strong leaders to clear away the communist debris. Roger Boyes asks whether such executive power is becoming dangerous

The urge for a strong man at the helm is again being felt in eastern Europe. This is not simple nostalgia for pre-war dictators, benign monarchs and a more ordered society. Many central and east Europeans are coming round to the idea that decisive personal leadership, rather than the emerging jumble of political parties and fickle, overloaded parliaments, is the only way out of recession and social crisis, as well as the surest guarantee of independence.

The election of Boris Yeltsin to the Russian presidency is part of the trend. So is President Walesa's demand for emergency powers for his government. The Bulgarians are clamouring for the return of King Simeon, not because of an obsession with royalty, but because of the appeal of a powerful suprapolitical figure. Even the phlegmatic Hungarians are veering this way: according to research in Budapest, some 68 per cent of Hungarians want stronger government leadership.

Force of personality brought Boris Yeltsin, Vaclav Havel and Lech Walesa to power. All three were elected without clearly defined restraints on their authority. To a large extent they will be able to shape their relationships with other democratic institutions. Mr Havel says that the new constitution should tightly hedge about the role of president,

but in the meantime he has put together a large team of advisers in the presidential palace, and is actively intervening in everyday politics. Eight political teams report to him, covering everything from human rights to pollution and the health service.

At the same time, Czechoslovakia's state government is rapidly being decentralised and the authority of parliament is seeping away. As in Poland, the magnetic field is between the president and a radical market reforming finance minister (Vaclav Klaus in Czechoslovakia, Leszek Balcerowicz in Poland). President Yeltsin will probably end up in a similar constellation: parliament and premiers do not seem to play a large part in his political strategy.

On the whole, voters are happy with these new alignments. The anti-totalitarian groupings (Poland's Solidarity, Civic Forum and Public Against Violence in Czechoslovakia, and the Union of Democratic Forces in Bulgaria) have been breaking up in rather bitter circumstances. The resulting political parties are weak and underfunded, and have poorly defined programmes. And the parliaments are having to process mountains of legislation to replace the communist infrastructure; there is barely time for debate. Strong presidents, preferably with anti-establishment pedigrees, are far more attractive.

The most uneasy relationship in the post-communist political landscape is between President Walesa and the Polish parliament. Mr Walesa was directly elected, but the lower house of parliament, the Sejm, still has a guaranteed block of seats for ex-communists. Logically, parliament should be dissolved as soon as possible and an election law, setting out voting methods, has been prepared. But Mr Walesa has used his presidential veto against the bill and so even autumn elections may be at risk.

Why has he done this? Critics (who have a good prediction record in Poland) say that continuing the life of a lame-duck parliament actually suits the president, allowing him to run the show. He cannot run it entirely by himself, they say, so he wants to give emergency powers to the government, which he chose. Parliament has for the moment become an irrelevance.

There is a historical parallel to Mr Walesa's manoeuvres: the pre-war *Sanacja* regime of Marshal Pilsudski. Parliament and political parties continued to function, but between 1926 and 1935 real power was exercised by the marshal. Mr Walesa's advisers balk at the comparison — after all Pilsudski overthrew a legally constituted government — but in almost every one of his political moves today there are echoes of the *Sanacja* period. The

uncertainties of the Twenties and Thirties re-emerge in the Nineties in the form of long dog queues, growing poverty, anti-Semitism and disturbing rumours from across the Soviet frontier.

Add to this the huge effort of abandoning the communist planning system, and it is clear that there is a temptation for the east and central Europeans to reach for the images of the inter-war years. The Pope's reference in Poland this month to communism as "a certain interruption" of history seemed to endorse this.

In the search for historical models, President Havel has an easier time than most: Thomas Masaryk, a philosopher-politician with sound democratic instincts, set a good example. Even so Mr Havel's gentle liberalism is constantly at war

with the political necessity to concentrate power in the president's hands.

International experience — for instance in Chile and South Korea — suggests that strong leadership may be needed for a rapid shift to the market, if only to batter down wage demands. But to neglect intermediary democratic institutions at such an early stage in the post-communist revolution is to trespass on quicksand. A free press is blossoming (though it leans towards orthodoxy) but other institutions are distinctly undeveloped. There are outlets for journalists who want to criticise President Havel or Romania's Ion Iliescu, but not many.

The dangers can best be observed in courtrooms. In theory, all the central Europeans now have independent judiciaries. In practice there has been no time to

re-educate the legal profession. Now, instead of following party edicts, they glance nervously over their shoulders (towards the presidential palace). The Helsinki group in Poland has become particularly active, investigating witch-hunts against communists, spurious pornography cases and the high number of former secret agents who have been committing suicide. Partly because of church pressure, social minorities such as homosexuals are having a hard time in the workplace.

The line between firm leadership and a return to mild authoritarianism is a thin one. The new populists of eastern Europe should be wary of preferring crowd politics to the building of democratic institutions. Otherwise, in an Orwellian twist, they may end up resembling the men that they ousted.

...and moreover

## ALAN COREN

For quite some time, man knew what the person he was talking to looked like. Throughout the hundred thousand years or so which followed the invention of the grunt, whenever someone said "Hello" to man, man saw a face saying it.

And then 1876 came along, as it was always going to, and someone said "Hello" to man and man said "Who's speaking?" and someone said "My name is Alexander Graham Bell," and man did not have the faintest idea what Alexander Graham Bell looked like. Admittedly there was a clue in the Edinburgh accent that the face might have a kilt below it, possibly a beard round it, even a tam-o'-shanter on top of it, but that was about it, and anyway man couldn't be sure of any of these, for who could say with any certainty that Alexander Graham Bell wasn't a Samoan with a gift for mimicry?

Indeed, since anyone on one end of a telephone could say he was Alexander Graham Bell, who on the other end could tell whether he was or wasn't when he said he was? Even if man had previously seen a photograph of Alexander Graham Bell, that did not mean that the face which came into his head when someone said "Alexander Graham Bell here" was the right face. Deception apart, there could very well be more than one Alexander Graham Bell, never mind the further complication that 250 million Americans remained unshakable in the belief that he was Thomas Alva Edison.

After 1876, in short, human communication would never be the same. And I have never come to terms with this. I need to see what I hear. Whenever I am telephoned by someone hitherto unknown to me, some caprice of the brain requires the disembodied voice to yield, however sketchily, to this or that speculative embodiment. A voice says: "Good morning, this is the Hendon tax office..." and, though I have never been there, a cream-distempred wall materialises in the earpiece, and ranks of green filing cabinets, and a cluttered mahogany desk, at which sits a balding man in grey pinstripe, I see bifocals, thin lips, a rather prominent Adam's apple. This must be how it is if you are a medium, the ectoplasm is gradually sculpting itself into Norman Tebbit. Or I ring Avis Rent-a-Car, and a voice chirps, "Good morning, Yvonne speaking, how may I help you?" and I see Yvonne's floral print, her lip-glossed phone-smile, her flip-glossed smile, she has got inclining her head, the loquacious tip-toed between her cute little digits.

This is not imagination, you will say, merely stereotyping. Well, yes, up to a point, but it also happens when I have absolutely nothing to go on. "Good afternoon, we haven't met, I do hope you'll forgive my calling you out of the blue, but..." by this time I have, for weak reason, the outline of a weakish chin, a curiously beaky nose, a ginger quiff, all this well before he introduces himself as, say, Major Rupert Molesworth of

the Grenadier Guards, thereby requiring me quickly to stick a bearskin on his half-envisaged head, and, if he's using a portable phone, possibly a horse between his as yet unimagined legs.

Where, you will ask as if you gave a damn, can all this be leading? To perhaps the most peculiar, unquestionably the most uninteresting — experience I have given me. Last evening, at around nine o'clock, the phone rang, a man with a deepish, faintly Midlands, accent asked if I was who I am, excused himself for disturbing me, and said that I didn't know him, but that his name was Keith Winter.

Doing what I have explained that I do at such times, I began rapidly joining up the dots and found myself with a long and hairy head, deep-set brown eyes, practically lifeless ears, and I was just addressing the nose when Keith said: "You'll think I'm mad" (I unset the eyes and made them roll a bit) "but for some time now people have been coming up to me in the street and saying they've seen me on the box, and when I ask them who they think I am, they say you, so I got Yorkshire Television to send me a cassette of something I was told you'd done, and I've just watched it, and it's absolutely bloody uncanny, we are doubles."

Inside my head, Keith's own suddenly grew rounder, his eyes went blue, lobes sprouted on his ears, his hair fell out. And yet, for all that, do you know I couldn't see him?

It was utterly impossible to picture me.

## Villain of the peace

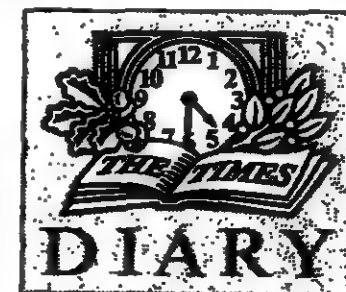
Forget Stormin' Norman. Is the real and so far untold story of the Gulf war the role of Stormin' John Major? A biography of the prime minister to be published next week claims that it was he and not, as some have suggested, General Schwarzkopf who urged President Bush not to call a ceasefire.

The claim is made by the journalist Bruce Anderson in *John Major: The Making of the Prime Minister*. He says that in a night of high drama in Downing Street on February 28, Britain unavailingly urged Bush to continue the land war after the White House had told Downing Street that Schwarzkopf and Colin Powell had made a joint recommendation in favour of a ceasefire.

Douglas Hurd, who was in the White House at the time, spoke immediately to Major. According to Anderson, whose account is based on an extensive briefing with a senior war cabinet source, the foreign secretary was instructed to press for an extension of the ground war of at least 24 hours. Downing Street wanted to throw a loop round the Iraqi forces in southern Iraq and Kuwait so as to prevent substantial enemy troop movements back to the safety of Baghdad. "It was the British who questioned Bush's decision," he says. "They could not understand this display of chivalry."

The account was confirmed yesterday by another Downing Street source: "Anderson's version is correct. General Schwarzkopf's claim that he wanted to go into Baghdad directly contradicts what we were told that night. The prime minister was the one who doubted the wisdom of a ceasefire."

Anderson even has an explanation of why the Americans called



off hostilities. "Some British officials entertained the unworthy suspicion that the two generals had seen an overwhelming public relations advantage in ending the ground war in exactly 100 hours," he says provocatively.

After the campaign to rename Leningrad, how long before the citizens of St Petersburg discover the urge to travel still further back to their Swedish roots? After all, the city's real historical name was Nyenskans, the original tiny fortress town built on the same site by the Swedes in 1609.

## Tassit disapproval

With the British press this week full of Soviet politics, the Soviet press is equally full of British politics — thanks to the admission of the first ever Soviet journalist to the lobby at Westminster. Dmitri Voskoboinikov, a correspondent with the Soviet news agency Tass, received his pass last month and now has unrestricted access to MPs and government briefings. He took his place for the first time this week, and immediately filed a story about the attitude of British MPs to Gorbachev. "It was a mixed response," says Voskoboinikov, aged 31, who learnt his craft at the faculty of journalism at Moscow State University.

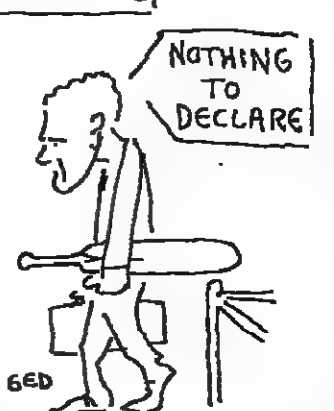
To his surprise he found Tory MPs more blustering about the

Soviet leader than their Labour counterparts. "It was Labour MPs who thought Gorbachev should not have been invited to the G7 summit," he said, breaking lobby rules immediately by naming one MP who had been particularly rude about Gorbachev. As he is a newcomer, his peers will surely forgive him one small indiscretion.

## Green channel

Michael Manley should board his flight for Jamaica relieved that his unfortunate week in London has come to an end. The Commonwealth meeting he came to attend was cancelled, and the Jamaican prime minister also had to endure a miserable few days in front of the television in his room at the Dorchester watching Graham Gooch bludge the might of the West Indian cricket team. "I couldn't watch it, it was too uncomfortable. But I reluctantly have to confess the best team on the day won."

## CUSTOMS



says an unhappy Manley, author of a history of West Indies cricket. There were further misfortunes. During the trip Manley's publishers presented him with an early copy of his new book, *The Poverty of Nations*. When his aides saw the

cover they winced. Its eye-catching colour scheme of light and dark green was attractive enough — except that makes the book look just like a manifesto for his most bitter political opponents, the Jamaican Labour party, which uses the very same colours.

## Stormy weather

A malign spirit appears to be dogging actor-director Mark Rylands' bizarre touring production of *The Tempest*. The play is being staged at carefully chosen open-air sites on "ley lines", representing the earth's ancient and mystical points of energy, not that it is doing them much good.

Since opening at the Rollright Stones in Oxfordshire last week, the company has been hit by a series of unexplained mishaps — actors fainting, well-rehearsed cues and lines fluffed and the sudden failure of mobile telephones from the mystical sites. This week the British weather produced a tempest of its own when they were performing at Corfe Castle, Dorset. "The audience was prepared to sit through the deluge and we were prepared to perform," a spokeswoman says. "But the St John's Ambulance advised us to abandon it in the interests of safety." Next week the company opens at another ancient site, close by the Globe theatre in Southwark. London's emergency services would be well advised to stand by.

Conducting the English Sinfonia in Northampton recently, the conductor Sir Charles Groves grew increasingly angry as the audience applauded between every song in Elgar's Sea Pictures. Finally he turned to the audience and accused them of breaking the musicians' concentration. "These are not a couple of songs at a Massé night," he said angrily. Thomas Beecham would have been proud.





## MERE WHITEHALL AGENTS

The issue of the hour in Britain is the division of power and responsibility between tiers of government. John Major, in his speech to Welsh Conservatives tonight, will seek to stem a flood of speculation over whether he will or will not concede more economic sovereignty to a supranational Europe. At issue is the principle of subsidiarity, which says that the functions of government should be devolved to the lowest and smallest tier compatible with efficiency and democratic accountability. Whatever nods he may make in the direction of Brussels, he will reassure sceptics that parliamentary rights must be undiminished and the electorate remain sovereign.

How strange that he shows no such concern for the subsidiary democratic institutions whose rights his own government has spent ten years eroding. The division of powers between central and local government last year tore the Tories apart and undermined Margaret Thatcher's position. The poll tax was the *casus belli*, but deeper issues lay beneath. Was Westminster willing to grant greater autonomy to local government or was it, in the guise of abolishing an unpopular tax, turning councils into mere agencies of Whitehall? Under the Tories, the amount of local expenditure covered by locally determined revenue is to fall from over half to under 15 per cent.

The answer appears to be yes. The government has received many representations on its paper, "A new tax for local government", on which the consultation period ends today. The details of valuation, timetable and implementation are matters of continued debate, but they do not bear on the fundamentals. The government has already sandbagged the debate. The poll tax was to be abolished and the path to council tax eased by the Budget transfer of £4 billion of council spending to VAT. The government wishes the issue politically dead.

This it must not be. The Audit Commission this week pointed out that, so small is the area of discretion left to councils, they will have to raise their own tax by 7 per cent or more to increase their spending by 1 per cent. This puts even the remaining discretion under effective central restraint. Ministers this week endorsed their antipathy

to localism by pushing through the Commons new powers to cap the spending of every council in the country. The bill is an offence against local democracy far more outrageous than anything M Delors is proposing for monetary and political union. Michael Heseltine is, in effect, telling local councillors that their work is of tinpot insignificance; they cannot be trusted with access to the public purse and should delegate their discretion upwards to a bountiful and ever-wise Treasury.

The local government Audit Commission has pointed to at least one means of rectifying this outrage. The government could return to local councils power to decide how much to charge local businesses, thus doubling at a stroke the revenue under their control. A council which raised taxes too much would discourage local businesses, harm local employment and risk diminishing the local tax base. This disincentive to reckless spending would reduce the need for capping, even on the existing basis. It would give a mighty boost to a principle to which ministers pay lip service, that of vigorous and constructive partnership between local businesses and their communities.

Michael Portillo, the local government minister, yesterday curtly rejected this suggestion. One more U-turn is more than the most shameless minister can bear. The issue is closed. The Treasury will not be happy until the revenue and spending of every council is determined by its officials.

This is politically inept since it ensures that every defect of local administration can be blamed on ministers in London. That is already the case in capped districts. Labour is wisely committed to ending capping, though Labour has yet to encounter the Treasury on this matter. The environment department, the central custodian of local government, is clearly in retreat. Mr Heseltine himself is ambiguous. Yesterday's pluralist reformer is today's central controller. His colleagues and much of his party do not care. This is sad for Britain's supposedly pluralist democracy and makes mockery of Tory complaints about overweening centralism in Brussels. What local government needs is a Bruges group of its own.

## GREATER PETERSBURG

What's in a name? A great deal, it would seem, if you live in the former capital of the Russian empire. From its foundation by Peter the Great in 1703 until the first world war, Russia's window to the west was known as St Petersburg. Russified into Petrograd by Tsar Nicholas II, it was renamed Leningrad after the death of Lenin in 1924. The sufferings of the siege from 1941 to 1944, in which up to a million died, will perpetuate the name of Leningrad; but it was a liability in the present mood of national revival.

This week the five million inhabitants of the city have voted to restore its first name. By doing so, they have confounded not only President Gorbachev and the Communist party (who naturally campaigned hard against any change), but also Alexander Solzhenitsyn. The great Russian émigré wrote from his American exile that St Petersburg was a German name, and vainly pleaded for Petrograd. The prophet proposed much wider, national, consultation: and the Communists now agree with him.

Whether or not they are allowed to have their way, the citizens of St Petersburg, as they henceforth wish their metropolis to be known, have shown an admirable independence of mind. They have rejected Slavophile xenophobia as well as Communist idolatry, and apparently wish to return to the cosmopolitanism of the city's heyday. The name of Leningrad had never quite driven out St Petersburg, though the latter had long since become corrupt. The "s" in Petersburg had been lost early in its history; latterly, the German prefix "Sanct" was often dropped too, leaving the truncated "Petersburg".

## MORE TIME AT THE ZOO

How much are the chimpanzees at London Zoo worth? They can be valuable to scientific research. If they breed in captivity, they can help the survival of their species should it become endangered. Like an exhibit in a museum, they can educate people who would otherwise never have the chance to see a primate in the fur. With their fellow animals, they can provide hours of pleasure for a family in a city that is famously unfriendly to parents and children.

The visiting public can only be expected to bear the cost of the last function, entertainment. Apart from the occasional burst of generosity spurred by threat-of closure appeals, people will pay at the turnstile only the fair price for what the zoo gives them personally. Money for research, conservation and education has to be found elsewhere.

Yesterday London Zoo appealed to the government for a stay of execution. Without more time (and therefore more money), the deadline for closure is now September. The zoo is losing £1.5 million a year and wants another £6 million from the environment department to pay for a restructuring plan. So far, David Trippier, the minister in charge, has resisted the zoo lobby. Central London is no place to confine such creatures, he says, and anyway the zoo has had enough government money already.

What is enough? Through its subsidy of other museums, environmental projects and education, the government concedes the public interest case for a measure of state subsidy. Its sporadic support for the zoo shows that it has not in the past expected the institution to be totally self-supporting. On the other hand, there never is enough public

money to go round. Institutions deserving of subsidy have to milk the private sector too. The London Zoo should be — and up to a point is — a prime example of this mixed economy at work.

Museums have been given throughout the past decade by arguments over whether to popularise themselves in order to increase their income. The more enlightened have realised that making their exhibits more attractive does not automatically imply that standards of scholarship have to fall. The zoo, to its credit, at least wants to become more visitor-friendly. It recently drew up a plan to do so, but its crudeness and over-ambition proved its undoing.

If London Zoo metamorphosed into nothing more than a theme park, an animal version of Disneyland, it could probably make enough money to stand on its own four feet. Chessington Zoo saw its attendances more than double when it turned itself into Chessington World of Adventures, in a period when the number of people visiting London Zoo fell. Chessington now makes several million pounds a year.

But provided the zoo shows willing by raising as much as it can from the private sector, and spends the money on making itself more attractive to visitors without lowering its standards of education or research, the environment department should offer the seed money needed. Already, the zoo's latest campaign has raised more than £1 million, and attendances are up by 30 per cent. There is hope that a private business consortium could put up more money. The zoo has done its bit; the public has shown its support; now the government should act.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

### First or second class on EMU train?

From Sir Roy Denman

Sir, It looks as if Britain will accept the so-called Delors compromise on economic and monetary union by the end of this year. This is an ingenious way to satisfy everyone except the diehards.

But from 1992 the European Community will still be divided. British concerns will remain. The majority of members will have accepted progress to a single currency within a few years — a decision as momentous as that of the Six in 1957, when they agreed to form a customs union and to accept the aim of an "ever closer union among the peoples of Europe".

They will from time to time have deafening arguments among themselves. But the arguments will be about "how" and "when". Britain and perhaps one or two of the smaller members will form a ramp. They will be arguing about "whether". Both groups will be on the same train. But the ramp will be travelling second class.

As the Eurotrain enters station after station, the world's attention will be on the first-class coach, which is where the action will be, and over which those in the second class will have little control. That is the price which the young in Britain will be paying for the reluctance over the years of their elders to involve themselves in the unification of Europe.

Yours faithfully,  
ROY DENMAN,  
194b Avenue de Tervuren,  
Boite 15,  
1150 Brussels, Belgium.  
June 12.

From Mrs Margaret Daly, MEP for Somerset and Dorset West (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, The tactics of Conservative opponents to European monetary union are surprising because, in essence, they are breaking the golden political rule of never saying "never". Mrs Thatcher effectively broke this rule and paid the penalty, and EMU opponents and Eurosceptics should heed this lesson.

At this early stage, no one can foretell what final shape EMU will take. Assuming that the perceived degree of necessary economic convergence can be achieved among 12 widely disparate economies, certain clear advantages and exchange advantages will accrue to those who opt for a common currency. At that time, the package available will either be advantageous, disadvantageous or neutral for Britain, as it will be, in different degrees, for 11 other member states. It will be the time for Britain to decide: but on the merits of the case, not on the basis of misconceived threats to a phoney sovereignty, which has not existed for much of this century and will not be a true option anyway. "No" may indeed be the decision which the British government reaches. John Major has preserved that option.

A number of proposals are now on the table. More may follow as national advantage is calculated and negotiating synergy develops. It is unlikely that any member state has declared its full hand yet. The British team must be allowed full

freedom to preserve all their options at this juncture.

Yours faithfully,  
MARGARET DALY,  
The Old School House,  
Aisholt, Spaxton,  
Bridgwater, Somerset.

From Mr Hugh Dykes, MP for Harrow East (Conservative)

Sir, Once again the quite irrational anxieties of the small number of anti-Europeans in Parliament and outside are shown in the comments from my colleague, Tony Favell, MP (June 12).

There is no question of the current inter-governmental negotiations on European monetary and political union producing the surrender of the seat of government from Westminster to some kind of Euro-supernature in Brussels. No one, but no one, has even suggested it. It is impossible to imagine that other proud countries would equally support the seat of government leaving Paris, or Bonn/Berlin, or Rome or The Hague.

European union, long since envisaged in the treaties which we solemnly and freely signed, means just that an ever-closer union of the peoples of Europe as self-confident powers pooling certain, but not all, common activities for the good of all. There have been many examples of monetary union in history which have not at all reduced a nation's choice and discretion on any compulsory basis.

I do hope Tony Favell and others will sleep calmly at night. There is no conspiracy planned.

I am, etc.  
HUGH DYKES (Chairman,  
The European Movement),  
House of Commons.

From the Editor of New European

Sir, There is nothing wrong with the Delors compromise unless the other 11 use it to develop monetary union in such a way as to disadvantage Britain and thus force her in later.

The Centre for Economic Policy Research — a research institution working in close collaboration with the EC — in a recent study by a group of leading economists, *Monitoring European Integration*, suggested that the European Community might look like at the beginning of the next century.

Around the year 2000, say, a possible constellation of countries in an enlarged Community could have as its core Austria, Benelux, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Spain joined in an economic and monetary union. There might then be a second circle of full Community member countries, consisting of the five Nordic countries, Cyprus, Greece, Malta and the UK, which would participate fully in all aspects of the 1992 programme's four freedoms. Finally, an outer circle might be established of countries with close access to the inner circles.

If this turns out to be the case, we will then know that the compromise of Jacques Delors was not a trick and that John Major meant what he said about his "unchanged" Euro-policies.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN COLEMAN, Editor,  
New European,  
14-16 Carrom Road, SW8.  
June 13.

### Berlin's role

From Mr James Clark

Sir, Lord Annan's approval for moving the German seat of government to Berlin (June 11) seems to be meant generously, but his is, not surprisingly, a Western and "Anglo-Saxon" view. I suspect it is out of tune with German perceptions in the 1990s. German public opinion is much more interested in strengthening the European Community than in national distinctiveness. It looks forward to dissolving the frontiers within Europe.

Just as Paris strengthens the conception of "France", so if Berlin became the German seat of government it would reinforce the identity of "Germany" against other regions of the European Community. This

is perhaps the Germans' greatest, and last, chance to make a stand against the slide towards nationalism in Europe.

Renowned Berlin is a major European city — certainly the East's best dowry to the West. Let the Germans offer a permanent home there to some of the institutions of the European Community. Let Berlin flourish as the economic and cultural capital of central and eastern Europe — it has all the advantages (geography, communications, expertise, even its exhilarating air) in order to do so.

Yours faithfully,  
JAMES CLARK,  
3 Warwick Mansions,  
Pond Street, NW3.  
June 11.

### Surgeon's move

From Mr David M. Hunt and others

Sir, We quite understand that a surgeon with Rolfe Birch's skills might prefer to leave general orthopaedic work at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to concentrate on specialist treatment at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital (report, June 10).

We know of no other resignations to date apart from that of Mr Birch, although one or two of the support staff may choose to follow in the future. Members of the orthopaedic department's nursing and secretarial staff leave from time to time, and those who have left recently have done so for reasons unrelated to this matter.

### Hospital at risk

From Mr James P. S. Thomson and others

Sir, Inner London health districts face considerable problems in discharging their local responsibilities within strict capital limits. The acute difficulties of one, the City and Hackney Health District, threaten the existence of St Mark's Hospital for Diseases of the Rectum and Colon.

St Mark's is the only hospital in the Western world devoted solely to the treatment of patients with intestinal diseases — including bowel cancer and its prevention, colitis, Crohn's disease, intestinal failure, incontinence, and anal disease. There is no proper training centre in coloproctology in the UK, unlike many other countries;

by default St Mark's is alone in providing periods of comprehensive training for those senior registrars who compete for special release from hospitals nationwide. Its loss as a training centre would seriously affect NHS care in this important field. Consultants in many parts of the UK regularly refer on to St Mark's difficult and intractable cases: these often desperately ill patients constitute 30 per cent of the hospital's case load.

The loss of St Mark's would take with it the research and development which emanate from, and in turn enhance, its own clinical work and that of others. Furthermore, the hundreds of specialists from the UK and around the world who visit yearly to study, and who in return inject their experience into St Mark's, would be surprised, con-

### Two sides of case for coexistence

From Mr Rod Pounsett

Sir, Boris Yeltsin's election to the presidency of the Russian Federation must be the signal for Western governments, including the United Kingdom, to add to their policies of "preaching and teaching" and begin giving. Only a major aid package from the West, to finance the more rapid transition to a market economy, can save the Soviet Union from an internal political battle which could not only leave the majority of the 15 republics in economic ruin but also present a real threat to international stability.

With Yeltsin promising just the sort of programme the West seems to be asking for it will be tempting, but gravely mistaken, for the leaders of the world's most powerful economic nations to ignore Gorbachev's pleas and simply freeze assistance until they see what happens in the Russian Federation under Yeltsin's presidency. Conditional help should be given now unless the West wishes to see the forces in the Soviet Union opposed to reform gloating over a Gorbachev-Yeltsin confrontation that could end with the old-style hardliners sweeping back to power.

Such are the predicaments of both Gorbachev and Yeltsin that the West cannot help one without the other: the charismatic Yeltsin is full of promises but has few resources to implement his policies; Gorbachev lacks the confidence to break ties with the old guard at the centre because he has lost public support and lacks resources to win it back.

By constructing a conditional aid package for the Soviet Union, the West can assist both leaders, while at the same time giving the whole process of transition to a market economy a timely push. For the time being it is essential that both survive.

Whatever the cost of financial support now, it would be far less than the bill the West would face if there were a total collapse of the Soviet economy.

Yours etc.  
ROD POUNSETT (Chairman  
and managing director),  
Sovkey (UK) Ltd.  
(Soviet business consultants),  
150a Haverstock Hill, NW3.  
June 13.

From Mr Brian Crozier

Sir, It would be wrong to suppose that Lenin must be turning in his grave at the sight of President Gorbachev getting lessons from

Harvard in how to bring capitalism to the Soviet Union (report, June 5), dropping the second S from the USSR, and wheeling an invitation to the Group of Seven summit.

Quite wrong. To do all that while the troops are out in Vilnius and the disinformers are at work on last January's bloody intervention (and while accepting a Nobel peace prize in Oslo) is in the purest Leninist tradition.

Lenin may or may not have said that the capitalists would provide the rope with which to hang them. But he did say (in his memorandum to foreign commissar Chicherin) that the capitalist "deaf-mutes" would give the communists the credits needed, and work hard to "prepare their own suicide".

Is Gorbachev, nevertheless, edging away from his acknowledged god? On Lenin's anniversary last year, Gorbachev delivered the traditional speech, declaring that the master, if he were still alive, would have approved of perestroika. This year, on April 22, Gorbachev was present in the Bolshoi theatre, alongside his comrades, but merely as a listener while his party deputy, Vladimir Ivashko, delivered the oration.

But this, too, could be presented as a Leninist deception. The current party programme calls for a market economy under central control: the perfect oxymoron.

The billions the West may be coaxed into giving the Soviet Union will, if granted, keep Lenin's party in power a little longer. Is this really what the West wants? The reward for decades of tyranny and mismanagement, the prize for the system that installed Mengistu in Ethiopia, Najibullah in Afghanistan, Castro in Cuba?

It is sad for an admirer of Mrs Thatcher to read her recent speech in Moscow in praise of the man she could do business with (report, May 28).

The West's generosity is misplaced. The logic of perpetuating communist misrule is baffling, for it merely feeds the current policy of parasitical coexistence while expenditure on armaments continues and the KGB remains intact. The world would be a safer place if the West stood aside and allowed the system to collapse.

Yours very truly,  
BRIAN CROZIER,  
As from: 303 The Linen Hall,  
162-168 Regent Street, W1.  
June 7.

### Child benefits

From Mr Nicholas Storey

Sir, I refer to the letter (June 4) from the Chief Executive of the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux and others. Is it "just" that legislation should license neglectful, absentee parents to continue to evade their obligation to support their children — by threatening violence or by offering financial incentives to the custodial parent — at a rate less than prescribed for the purposes of the income support legislation, in return for silence on the identity of the absentee parent? Likewise, should legislation encourage a parent who claims income

support to make a nice, clean break from a partner who has become personally undesirable yet who has the means to lessen the demands made upon the public purse by supporting his or her own children?

We can but guess what the Child Support bill will cost to enact and administer but one cannot help wondering whether the cost could not be better expended on perfectly straightforward measures to shelter the mendicant children and young people who roam our streets and Underground.

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS STOREY,  
42 Manor Park Road, N2.  
June 6.

### Transport policies

From the Deputy Director of the British Road Federation

Sir, Charlie Kronick of Greenpeace (June 7) argues that the government should reverse the growth in road transport.

Given that demand for transport rises in direct proportion to economic activity and that the use of public transport would have to grow by about 50 per cent of its current level each year simply to contain road traffic at its present volume, Mr Kronick appears to be asking the government to commit the country to perpetual recession.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD DIMENT,  
Deputy Director,  
British Road Federation,  
Pillar House,  
194-202 Old Kent Road, SE1.

### Water shortages

From Mr R. Grant Paton

Sir, Amid the constant concern over water shortages, there appears to be a fallacy. Admittedly water is consumed in increasingly large quantities, but surely the world enjoys a closed system. Certainly human consumption of water is quickly returned whence it came. Where therefore does all our water go?

I am, yours faithfully,  
R. GRANT PATON,  
Odell Cottage,  
Queens Lane,  
Eynham, Oxford.

### Gospel mission

From Lord Orr-Ewing and others

Sir, We are astonished that when Dr Billy Graham recently came to Scotland to proclaim the Christian gospel to hundreds of thousands of people, at a time when the fabric of our society is being eroded, this was deemed worthy of scarcely a mention by the national media.

How can this be in a nation that once took the gospel to the uttermost ends of the earth?

Yours faithfully,  
ORR-EWING,  
TONYPANDY,  
LONGFORD,  
ASHBOURNE,  
House of Lords.  
June 11.

### Wind indicator

From Mr Archie Atkinson

Sir, There are no confusing signals from weather vanes on the Isle of Man (Mr Davies's letter, June 5). Here the most reliable wind direction indicator is the herring gull perched on a neighbour's ridge tile. He, or she, invariably faces into the wind. Nothing upsets him, or her, more than to have a breeze up the tail.

Yours etc.  
A. K. W. ATKINSON,  
8 Scarlett Road,  
Castletown, Isle of Man.

### Shirt syndrome

From Mr Alex G. Finch

Sir, In recent weeks I have detected a sudden and quite extraordinary decline in our order books for men's shirts made up in very boldly striped fabrics.

As the stridently striped shirt has hitherto been an essential ingredient to the image of the Yuppy, might this not be an indication that we are at last "trending" in our social aspiration away from the venal and towards a more caring society?

Yours faithfully,  
ALEX G. FINCH (Chairman  
and Managing Director),  
Hilditch & Key Ltd.,  
88 Jermyn Street, SW1.  
June 10.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).















**BBC 1**

8.00 *Casualty*  
 8.30 *BBC Breakfast News*  
 9.05 *Rosemary Conley's Diet and Fitness Club* (r) 9.30 *Travel Show*  
 Guides, Penny Junor and Matthew Collins with all you need to know about holidays in Normandy (r)  
 10.00 *News*, regional news and weather 10.05 *Playdays* 10.25 *Bunyip* (r) 10.35 *Humdrums*. Musical game show hosted by Jonathan Coleman (r)  
 11.00 *News*, regional news and weather 11.05 *High Chaparral*. Classic western series (r) 11.55 *Reviving Antiques*. Mending last-pot spoils (r). (Casualty)  
 12.00 *News*, regional news and weather 12.05 *Scene Again*. Judi Spleen with show business highlights from *Scene Today* 12.25 *Hooked On Scotland*. Paul Young takes in Scotland's oldest angling festival and goes fishing with Andy Gray of *City Lights* (r) 12.55 *Regional news and weather*  
 1.00 *One O'Clock News* and weather  
 1.30 *Neighbours*. (Casualty) 1.50 *Humdrums*. Jonathan Coleman hosts the musical guessing game  
 2.15 *Film: Happy Endings* (1983). Mid, middle-of-the-road romantic comedy about two apartment dwellers whose efforts to get together are hampered by the still-fresh memories of their erstwhile lovers. Starring John Schneider and Catherine Hicks. Directed by Noel Black  
 3.50 *Quick Draw McGraw*. Cartoon (r) 4.00 *A Bear Behind* (r) 4.10 *Smugglers* (r) 4.35 *The Legend of Tim Tyler*. Episode seven of the 12-part children's adventure series from Germany (r)  
 5.00 *Newsround* 5.10 *The Girl from Tomorrow*. Episode four of the 12-part fantasy drama series about a girl from the year 3000 (Casualty)  
 5.35 *Neighbours* (r). (Casualty). Northern Ireland: Sportswide 5.40 *Inside Ulster*  
 6.00 *Six O'Clock News* with Peter Gossens and Moira Stuart. Weather  
 6.30 *Regional news magazines*. Northern Ireland: *Neighbours*

A clip off the old block-buster *Chesney Hawkes* (7.00pm)

7.00 *Wogan* with Joanne Lumley. Among the guests is the chart-topping *Chesney Hawkes*, Robbie Coltrane and Betty Marsden  
 7.30 *Joint Account*. Trepid reveal sitcom starring Hannah Gordon as a bank manager and Peter Egan as her stay-at-home husband. (Casualty)  
 8.00 *Fast Friends*. Forgettable quiz show hosted by the splendid Lee Dawson, who could do with a better outlet for his talent. Team captains choose their teams from 40 "friends" in the audience and then compete for a luxury holiday. (Casualty)  
 8.30 *Keeping Up Appearances*. Roy Clarke's disappointing, one-joke sitcom about the suburban social-climber, Hyacinth. The compensation is Patricia Routledge in the central role. With Judy Cornwell and Geoffrey Hughes (r). (Casualty)  
 9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Martin Lewis. (Casualty) *Regional news and weather*  
 9.30 *The Cowra Breakout*. Episode two of the sturdy five-part Australian drama, aerial about a true incident in which a Japanese soldier, captured in New Guinea in 1942, was interned in a New South Wales prison-of-war camp. Stars Juridit Ishida and Alan David Lee. Northern Ireland: 11.00 *Forgiveness*  
 11.20 *Film: Rent-a-Clown* (1972). An early effort by unruly satirist John Cleese and Graham Chapman, marking a handover of comic reins from the Goons to the Pythons team. Given the talent involved, it should have been funnier. A detective agency is called upon to find the thieves responsible for stealing a nerve gas capsule of parodying victims from the west. With James Booth, Spike Milligan and Donald Sinden. Directed by Jim Clark. (Casualty). Northern Ireland: 11.40-1.05 *Film: Valdez Is Coming*  
 12.30am *Guests of God: The City of the Prophet*. The Wentezels reach Saudi Arabia and after a visit to Mecca begin their pilgrimage to Mecca  
 12.50 *Weather*

**BBC 2**

6.45 *Open University: Man-Made Macromolecules*. Ends at 7.10  
 8.00 *News* 8.15 *Weatherman*  
 9.00 *Daytime* 9.15 *Weatherman*  
 2.00 *News* and weather followed by Words and Pictures (r) 2.15 *Weekend Outlook*. A preview of *Open University* programmes (r)  
 2.20 *Tennis*. Quarter-final action in the Stella Artois championships from Queen's Club, London. News and weather at 3.00 and 3.50  
 5.00 *Film: Humanoide Defender* (1985). A sci-fi television movie starring Terence Knox (from *St Elmo's Fire*) as a scientist working as part of a team that has developed a special partition tank to create the ultimate soldier. This perfect specimen eventually emerges replete with centuries worth of information and knowledge. However, to the chagrin of the military, it cannot be programmed to kill. With Gary Kasper and Bill Lucking. Directed by Ron Satoff  
 7.30 *What the Papers Say* with Robert Fox of the *Daily Telegraph*  
 7.45 *Public Eye: Stalker* - The Final Chapter.  
 8.00 *CHOICE: John Stalker*, former deputy chief constable of Greater Manchester, was removed from his inquiry into the alleged shooting to police in Northern Ireland because he was getting too close to the truth. The pretext was his friendship with a Manchester businessman, Kevin Taylor, who was being investigated by the police. At least this has become a widely accepted version. A *Public Eye* report by the tenacious Peter Taylor sets out to demolish it. Taylor's argument is that there was no conspiracy to remove Stalker, by M5, the Royal Ulster Constabulary, or anyone else. He suggests that far from trying to sabotage the Northern Ireland inquiry, Stalker's removal was designed to protect its integrity. Taylor's account is well documented and plausible, although many of the leading players, including Stalker, Kevin Taylor, and the Greater Manchester chief constable James Anderson, declined to take part in the programme. It may still not be the final word  
 8.30 *Gardeners' World* reports from the Norfolk village of Roydon where a couple asked designer Adrian Bloom to turn their tiny front garden into a low maintenance, drought-resistant horticultural paradise  
 9.00 *The Real McCoy*. Comic sketches and songs performed by Curtis and Ishmael, Llewella Gideon, Collette Johnson, Robbie Gee, Lee Chester, Perry Benson and Kathy Burke



The Soviet Union's man of the moment: Boris Yeltsin (8.30pm)

9.30 *The Second Russian Revolution: The Yeltsin File*.  
 9.40 *CHOICE: By a clever, or lucky, piece of scheduling, the history of Gorbachev's Soviet Union reaches the man of the moment. Tonight's episode concentrates on events in 1987 and 1988, and charts the rise, fall, and partial resurrection of Boris Yeltsin. As before in the series, the narrative is enriched with the first-hand accounts of leading participants, including Yeltsin himself and his adversary at the time, Gorbachev's deputy, Yegor Ligachev. Ligachev is everywhere. Ligachev comments: "Yeltsin is all talk, but he has never actually achieved anything." It is a judgment Western observers will ponder as Yeltsin's challenge to Gorbachev becomes ever stronger. On the evidence of this programme, Yeltsin may have the common touch, even if some of the evidence seems to depend on his manipulation of the photo-opportunity. But Gorbachev is by far the more powerful politician with a shrewd grasp of the realities of power. (Casualty)*  
 10.20 *10x10: A Drowning Silence*.  
 10.30 *CHOICE: It may not be entirely clear from what appears on the screen but the origin of this mini-drama was a play about child abuse and its repercussions in the victim's adult life. Nicole Buckingham developed her script from improvisations with her fellow pupils at a school for troubled children. The play, *Speech of Speech and Drama*, has reward to be given the lead role. The directors, Robert Sanders and David Evans, use colour for the present and black and white for the past as they intercut a conversation between a woman and her lover with flashbacks of her childhood. As she hints to him that she has a terrible secret to divulge, we see her younger self with stylised shots of her parents and disturbing images of water and darkness. Although some of the references may remain obscure, it is a clever piece of filmmaking, which packs a lot into the ten-minute slot.*  
 10.30 *Newsnight* presented by Peter Snow 11.15 *Weather*  
 11.20 *US Open Golf Championship*. Second round action from the Hazlet Golf Club in Cheeks, Minnesota. Ends at 12.55

**ITV**

8.00 *TV-am*  
 9.25 *Cross Wits*. Tom O'Connor hosts the crossword game show 9.55 *That's the Way*  
 10.00 *Out of This World*. American comedy series starring Doug McClure and Maureen Flannigan  
 10.30 *This Morning*. Family magazine presented live from Liverpool's Albert Dock by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan  
 12.10 *Rainbow*. For the young. Today's theme is travelling (r)  
 12.30 *News* with John Suchet. Weather 1.10 *Thames News* and weather  
 1.20 *Home and Away* 1.50 *A Country Practice*. Australian drama set in a rural community health office  
 2.20 *The Health Experiment*. Health series extolling the virtues of a balanced diet and moderate exercise, introduced by Sebastian Cole 2.50 *Win, Lose or Draw*. Danny Baker hosts the pen and paper charades game  
 3.15 *ITN News headlines* 3.20 *Thames News headlines* 3.25 *The Young Doctors*. Australian medical drama  
 3.55 *Nellie the Elephant*. Cartoon (r) 4.00 *Rod 'n' Emu*. Rod Hull and the typewriter. Australian bird do battle with the redoubtable *Goosebumps* 4.15 *The Magic Crown*. Sward and swordy drama series for children 4.40 *Finders Keepers*. Neil Buchanan keeps order while hordes of children hunt for clues in a huge house  
 5.10 *Home and Away* (r)  
 5.40 *News* with Fiona Armstrong. (Oracle) *Weather*  
 6.00 *Six O'Clock Live* presented by Frank Bough. The studio guests are impressionist Jessica Martin and singer Sheena Easton. From *Sherry*. Taylor's account is an interview with rally driver Derek Bell. Followed by LWT *News* and weather  
 6.55 *The Day*. With a 13-year-old steel band player preparing for the Notting Hill carnival  
 7.00 *Through the Keyhole*. David Frost offers the rich and famous a chance to get their homes on television, while Lloyd Grossman enthuses over the décor and dishes out cryptic clues to celebrity panelists - Willie Rushton, Patti Colwell and Alan Titchmarsh. (Oracle)

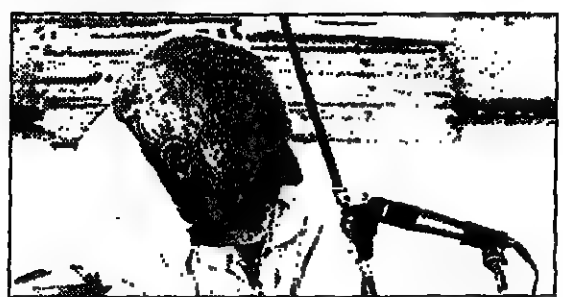


Anglian Charles Lawton, Bryan Moxley, Geoff Hineff (7.30pm)

7.30 *Coronation Street*. Three intrepid anglers seek solace and solitude. (Oracle)  
 8.00 *Second Thoughts: Marriage of Inconvenience*. Lynda Shelton and Jim McEwan in the cheerful sitcom about the joys and frustrations of love and marriage the second time around. Bill and Faith finally decide to marry but before the happy ceremony can take place Bill must get proof from former wife Liz (Belinda Lang) that he is in fact divorced  
 8.30 *The Piglet Files*. Juvenile comedy series starring Nicholas Lyndhurst as a dandy M5 agent, Peter Chapman, code-named Piglet. The agent finds himself the target of a KGB love story and the attentions of a beautiful Russian spy (Edith Bratch). To his immense distress he is ordered to play along with her. (Oracle)  
 9.00 *A Perfect Hero*. Nigel Havers as a dashing second world war pilot who is homically burnt in a battle of Britain dogfight. His recovery is long and frustrating and, despite intelligent writing and acting, the same can be said for this series, which has hardly developed since the opening episode. With James Fox as the plastic surgeon. (Oracle)  
 10.00 *News* at Ten with Julie Somerville and Trevor McDonald. (Oracle) *Weather* 10.35 *LWT News* and weather followed by *The Day* 10.45 *The London Programme*. Trevor Phillips investigates the house market in the London and the southeast  
 11.15 *Hoopmann*. Police comedy starring John Rittler  
 11.45 *The Young Riders*. Adventures of six Pony Express riders in 1850s Dakota  
 12.35am *Married... With Children*. American domestic comedy  
 1.05 *The James White Show*. More phone-ins, superficial banter and music with the argumentative DJ  
 2.05 *Raw Power*. Rock videos  
 3.05 *CinemAffairs*. The latest US cinema releases  
 3.35 *Back Volleyball*  
 4.30 *Soap*. Often hilarious American spoof featuring the outrageous Tina and Campbell families (r)  
 5.05 *Superboy*. Adventures of the junior superhero John Haymes Newton, alias college boy Clark Kent (r)  
 6.30 *ITN Morning News* with Sue Carpenter. Ends at 6.00

**CHANNEL 4**

6.00 *The Channel Four 9.25 Schools*  
 12.00 *The Parliament Programme* 12.30 *Business Daily*  
 1.00 *Sesame Street* (r)  
 2.00 *Painted Tales: Lager - L'Homme à la Pipe*. Series of animated stories set in a municipal art gallery  
 2.15 *Easy Does It*. Gentle exercise series for the over-fifties with Pat Rowlandson. Today's subject is correct breathing (r)  
 2.30 *Channel 4 Racing* from York. Derek Thompson introduces live coverage of the 2.40, 3.10, 3.40 and 4.10 races  
 4.30 *Fifteen-to-One*. Elimination quiz hosted by William G. Stewart  
 5.00 *I Love Lucy* (b/w). Classic American sitcom starring Lucille Ball  
 5.30 *The Triple Net*. The inward eye. Last of the series in which Iain Gregory plays Welsh writer Kate Roberts (1881-1955). After returning to North Wales Kate buys a publishing house and founds the newspaper *Y Ffery*, a broadsheet that maintained an independent Welsh view throughout the war years (r). (Teletext)  
 6.00 *Kate & Allie*. Sitcom about two divorced women sharing a Greenwich Village apartment (r)  
 6.30 *Best of The Word*. Another selection of reports from the chaotic magazine programme features the cast of the series *Beverly Hills 90210* and music from *Definition of Sound*  
 7.00 *Channel 4 News* with Jon Snow and Zainab Bedawi. (Teletext) *Weather*  
 7.50 *First Reaction*. Mark Sten reviews the musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*  
 8.00 *Brookside*. Merseyside soap. (Teletext)



He does like to be beside the seaside: Tony Savage (8.30pm)

8.30 *Short Stories: A Seaside Organelle*.  
 9.00 *CHOICE: Since the Fifties Tony Savage has been playing the organ to holidaymakers at Cliftonville, near Margate. He claims to be one of the last of his kind. His audience was once 2,000 strong. It is now counted in dozens and they are mainly senior citizens, faithfully returning year after year. "I'm a bit of a memory man," he confesses as he ripples out the old tunes and passes on his veteran customers to get up and shake a leg. Savage reckons his job is keeping people happy. He is ever optimistic, as a seaside entertainer has to be in the face of chill winds and brooding clouds. It's a family affair, with his wife taking the deck chair tickets and the mother-in-law selling tea and ice. This affectionate but unflattering film was made by Savage's son, Dominic, a recent graduate of the National Film and Television School. (Teletext). As one holidaymaker has requested, with "Now is the Hour" (Teletext)*  
 9.00 *Cheers*. Durable American sitcom set in a cosy Boston drinking-hole. Frasier (Kelsey Grammer) teases for the sanity of his wife who is distraught at the death of a laboratory rat. (Teletext)  
 9.30 *Consuming Passions*. A series about a couple driven by an obsessive interest which turns a hobby into a life's work. Penny Black's passion is her garden, designed like a piece of fine embroidery and rich in resources for her pressed flower pictures, pot-pourri and perfume. The programme joins Penny in her Cornwell garden to learn about her life, her crafts and the inspiration for a remarkable mid-life achievement (r). (Teletext)  
 10.00 *Roseanne*. Community Theatre When her sister Jessica (Laurie Metcalfe) decides to audition for the local theatre, Roseanne (Roseanne Barr) feels duty-bound to intercede. (Teletext)  
 10.30 *Absolutely*. Assorted comedy antics  
 11.05 *Friday at the Dome*. Live music, features and interviews from London's Kibum National. The guests include Manchester band James, Larry Kravitz, Dance Act Soho, Benders and Del Leppard. Joe Elliott who learns up with Liam O'Meara (of Hothouse Flowers)  
 12.20am *Film: Homicidal* (1981, b/w). An effective, low-budget "old dark house" mystery thriller from William Castle, best known for devising pulpy-attracting gimmicks for his films. In this case it was a one minute "right break" to allow nervous members of the audience to leave before the movie's climax. Miriam Webster (Patricia Breslin) and her friend Karl (Glenn Corbett) decide to return to the mansion in which their father lived as a child. What they find is old nanny Helga (Eugenie Leontovich) mute and paralysed after a stroke and living in terror of her strange nurse Emily (Jean Arias). Lots of tension and with a creepy surprise ending. Ends at 1.55

## TV VARIATIONS

**ANGLIA**  
 As London except: 8.10pm-8.40 *The Muppet Show* 8.50 *News* 9.00 *Regional News* 9.30 *Anglia News* 10.40 *Cricket* 11.40 *Murphy's Law* 12.05 *West 2.05* *Friday* 12.30 *Cricket* 12.55 *Friday* 1.00 *Cricket* 1.30 *Cricket* 1.55 *Friday* 2.00 *Cricket* 2.30 *Cricket* 2.55 *Friday* 3.00 *Cricket* 3.30 *Cricket* 3.55 *Friday* 4.00 *Cricket* 4.30 *Cricket* 4.55 *Friday* 5.00 *Cricket* 5.30 *Cricket* 5.55 *Friday* 6.00 *Cricket* 6.30 *Cricket* 6.55 *Friday* 7.00 *Cricket* 7.30 *Cricket* 7.55 *Friday* 8.00 *Cricket* 8.30 *Cricket* 8.55 *Friday* 9.00 *Cricket* 9.30 *Cricket* 9.55 *Friday* 10.00 *Cricket* 10.30 *Cricket* 10.55 *Friday* 11.00 *Cricket* 11.30 *Cricket* 11.55 *Friday* 12.00 *Cricket* 12.30 *Cricket* 12.55 *Friday* 1.00 *Cricket* 1.30 *Cricket* 1.55 *Friday* 2.00 *Cricket* 2.30 *Cricket* 2.55 *Friday* 3.00 *Cricket* 3.30 *Cricket* 3.55 *Friday* 4.00 *Cricket* 4.30 *Cricket* 4.55 *Friday* 5.00 *Cricket* 5.30 *Cricket* 5.55 *Friday* 6.00 *Cricket* 6.30 *Cricket* 6.55 *Friday* 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# Tories owe £5m despite record income

By Philip Webster  
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Conservative party is £5 million in debt in spite of receiving its highest ever income for a non-election year.

The party's accounts for last year, published last night four months earlier than in any recent year, show that a £4.3 million deficit last year has increased to £5 million, compared with a surplus of £300,000 in 1989.

Nearly half the deficit is due to the expensive modernisation of the party's headquarters at Smith Square, Westminster, but much of the rest was due to the high-spending publicity campaign conducted under the former chairman, Kenneth Baker, when the party's fortunes were at a low ebb last year.

Contributions from some big business backers have been cut, with the party's largest corporate contributor, the builders Taylor Woodrow, cutting its donation from £150,000 last year to £24,000. Although donations have increased to £10 million from £7 million last year and £6.7 million in 1989 they are not as high as the party would like so close to an election.

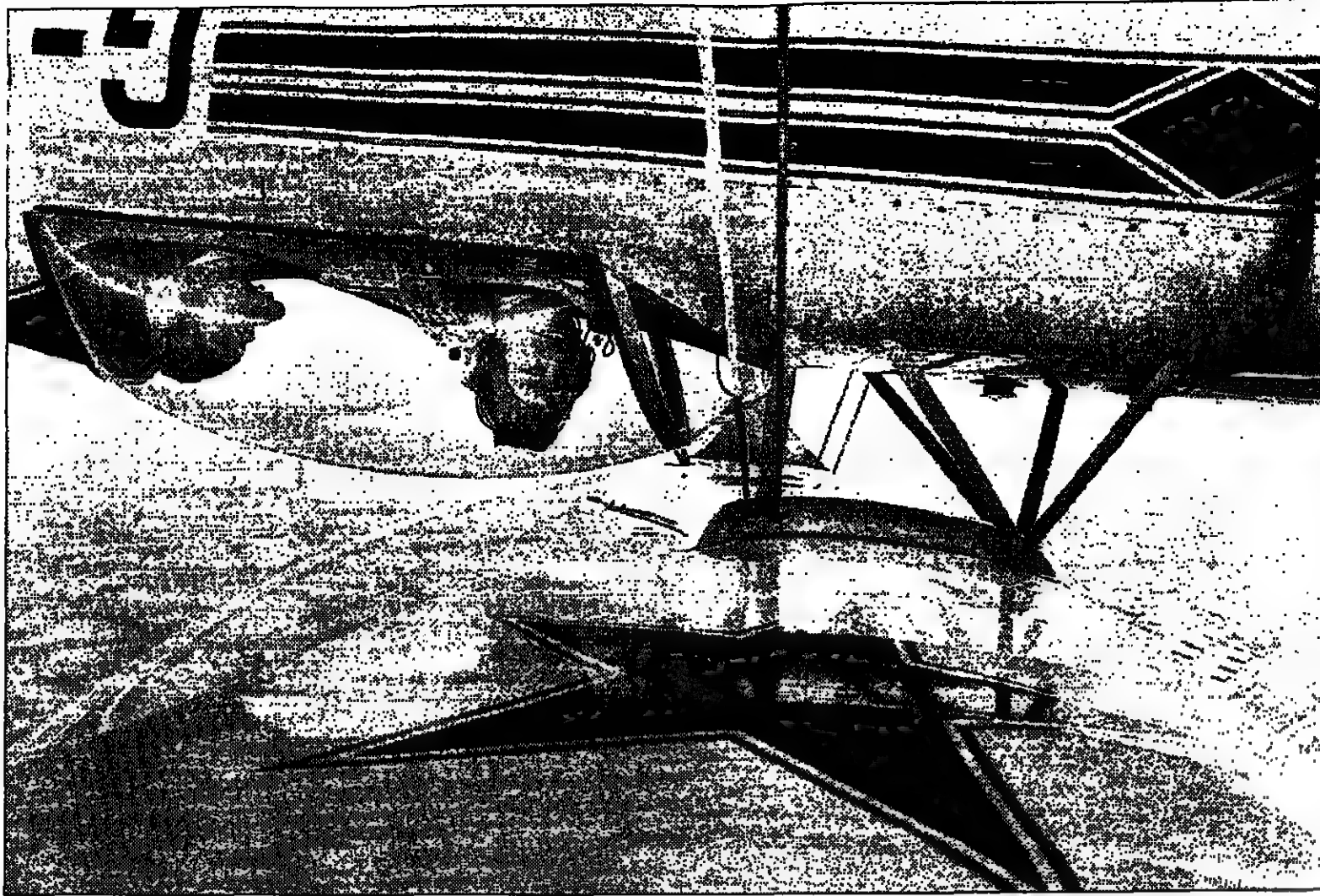
Conservative sources have been speaking privately for some time of profligacy at Central Office. Chris Patten, appointed party chairman in November, soon became aware of the alarming financial position and has since tightened financial controls.

Both John Cope, his deputy chairman, and Michael Stern, whom John Major appointed as an additional vice-chairman with responsibility for finance, are accountants and are reported to have taken a firm grip on finances.

The party's true debt is much higher, although officials refused to comment on suggestions that it was around £12 million. The party has an overdraft secured on the Smith Square building and has loans from Conservative associations.

The party's income was £13 million compared with £9 million in 1990. But its expenditure was £18 million compared with £13 million in 1990.

Mr Patten said last night he had published the accounts early in order to have the first available opportunity to discuss them with the party's national union executive committee which represents the constituencies.



Aerobatic minister: Stephen Dorrell, a junior health minister, over the Kent countryside yesterday at the launch of a scheme by the mental health charity Mind. Members of the public will be invited to raise sponsorship money by taking the controls of a plane for a loop-the-loop

## Swiss women storm last barricade for equal pay

From Philip Jacobson in Zurich

JUDGED by the snail's pace of change in Switzerland, the nation's 2.5 million women have come a long way in the past 20 years. They got the vote in 1971 and constitutional equality with men a decade later.

But one barricade remains to be stormed: equal pay for equal work, and today on the 70th anniversary of the foundation of the Swiss confederation, the women of Switzerland are being asked to strike for 24 hours in support of a national campaign by the local equivalent of the TUC.

"When women stop, everything stops," is their slogan, accompanied by a sketch of a lady with arms firmly folded, and the aim is to get nurses and teachers, housewives and currency dealers to down tools, metaphorically at least, in a demonstration of female solidarity.

Women, who are concerned that coming out in sympathy might jeopardise their jobs, are being urged to start symbolic five-minute stoppages on the dot of 11am. Those who do not go out to work are urged to leave brushes and saucepans out on the doorstep or windowsill and attend one

of the many events being organised to mark the great day: how about joining in the symbolic "adjustment" of street names honouring prominent men, or perhaps the "modification" of male statues sounds more exciting.

For all the exasperated harping of Switzerland's male traditionalists - a species in no danger of extinction - the ladies have a powerful case on which to fight for their constitutional rights to equal opportunities. According to the government's own figures, their average pay is still lagging some 30 per cent below that of men doing essentially the same work.

How many women will actually heed the strike call is uncertain. One opinion poll reckoned that no more than 10 per cent would participate. But that would still be a quarter of a million, without counting their male supporters, and the day of inaction enjoys widespread backing in the political and business sectors, as well as the churches.

Not bad for a country where the last general strike took place in 1918 and employers and unions made what

amounted to a non-strike deal a good 60 years ago.

One corner of Switzerland where the call to the female cause may not exactly echo through the streets is the heartland of male traditionalism in the "half-cantons" of Appenzel.

It was not until last April that women were finally allowed to take part in the annual Landsgemeinde at which issues of local importance are thrashed out, then decided on a show of hands, and that earth-shaking reform took place only because the federal court had ordered Appenzel to give way.

## Howard welcomes jobless 'slowdown'

Continued from page 1

improvement in unemployment is based on the 70,600 rise in May - the lowest increase in unemployment so far this year. Mr Howard said that taken with the smaller than expected rise of 82,600 last month, it "suggests that the rate of increase in unemployment may have slowed down".

Ministers expect the level of unemployment to continue to rise for some months to come, but believe that since people in work often fear most the speed of the rise in unemployment rather than the absolute number out of work, any slowdown in the rate of increase is welcome.

But Labour said the figures offered no ground for complacency. Tony Blair, Labour's employment spokesman, said: "Instead of trying to talk up a recovery that isn't there, ministers should start to act to help us out of the recession they have created."

Having repeatedly called for lower pay increases, the government took more comfort yesterday from a further decline in the rise in average earnings, which fell by half a percentage point for the fourth month in succession. They are now standing at 8.75 per cent. But the CBI announced poor figures on retail sales.

● Action plan: A Government package worth £28.5 million to boost job prospects in west Cumbria was announced yesterday by Peter Lilley, the trade and industry secretary. He said in a Commons statement that the money would be used to provide factories and set up an action team to bring new jobs to the area.

Mr Lilley said the aid was needed because of expected job losses in the region - up to 6,000 from the Vickers shipyard in Barrow and 5,000 from a British Nuclear Fuels construction project in the Copeland area. Funding would also be provided to improve road links between Barrow-in-Furness and the M6.

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## Yeltsin races to victory

Continued from page 1

munist party. Mr Gorbachev said he saw no moral or political grounds for changing the name from Leningrad.

The vote follows a trend set by cities such as Tver and Nizhni Novgorod, which abandoned their post-revolutionary names last year, but the last general strike took place in 1918 and employers and unions made what

sacrosanct. The name change may not, however, be immediate. The deputy chairman of the Russian parliament, Ruslan Khasbulatov, said that the vote was regarded as advisory rather than binding, and the Soviet parliament said that any change of name would require a national decision in view of Leningrad's importance as the Soviet Union's second city.

## Political sketch A minder picked by computer

THE finest thoroughbred horses are often accompanied by a favourite donkey, goat or sheep. Some racehorses will travel nowhere without such a beast. Animal psychiatrists report that the pedigree is relaxed by the presence of its plebeian pal.

Sitting behind the junior industry minister, John Redwood, yesterday was his new parliamentary private secretary, David Evans (Welwyn Hatfield).

A PPS, who is unpaid, is a backbencher appointed to mind the backbench interests of a minister. The PPS keeps the boss in touch with feeling and acts as his eyes and ears in bars and tea-rooms where ministers do not go. If there are ruffled feathers, a PPS will let his master know. If a minister seeks to plant a question, a canny PPS will find the mug to do it.

It is up to ministers to choose. Redwood has chosen Evans. Not since Noddy and Big Ears has a more odd couple been seen.

Though Evans trades shamelessly on his humble origins, loves to play the buffoon and boasts of failing his 11-plus, he is no fool. A shrewd businessman and ex-chairman of Luton Town football club, Evans's braying interventions at PM's questions shock and delight. Beneath his superficially vulgar populism lies...

well, a profoundly vulgar populism. To say that the member for Welwyn Hatfield is no intellectual is more than fair: it is your sketchwriter's best hope of avoiding a black eye. Yet the Evans family crest bears the motto "Ne me minoris fac" ("do not underestimate me") - or would, if Evans could be doing with Latin. "Watch yer step, sonny," says it all.

John Redwood could hardly be more different. Possessed of a superhuman intellect, this slim young investment manager with Rothschilds, philosopher of the new right and Fellow of

All Souls, is a lean, mean, thinking machine. But he is dry, apparently cold, and has an emotionless manner which sometimes spooks his colleagues. This column was the first to rumble to the fact that Redwood is not in fact a human being at all, but a Vulcan, recently landed from the planet of the same name, where merciless logic rules. Redwood now passes as human, engaged in the covert task of assembling a team of Vulcans to take over the Conservative party.

The plot thickens. Redwood has employed Evans. Why? Evans is human!

I shall tell you why. Colleagues have advised Redwood that his only serious bar to upward mobility is his apparent lack of a sense of fun: he should show more warmth, a more roustabout quality, towards fellow MPs. To see what they mean, he has tapped the words "fun", "warmth" and "roustabout" into the secret computer package of "handy phrases for travellers to Earth," they gave him when he left Vulcan, but it flashes up only synonyms, equally unfamiliar. How can he cultivate emotions alien to him?

"I know," he has concluded. "I'll get a PPS. Somebody with all these qualities, to act as a bridge between me and the humans. I'll key the words for every vulgarian quality into my computearch programme, and see which MP the screen throws up." Tap, tap, tap... "rollicking", "rough", "roustabout", "rule"... finally, he presses EXECUTE.

Oh dear. "Evans, David John". The computer has overdone it. Human, yes. All too human, but there is no way a Vulcan can know that. Operating according to strict binary logic, the computer has produced the optimum solution. Reacting with utter rationality, Mr Redwood has accepted it.

The best of luck to both!

MATTHEW PARRIS

## THE SATURDAY REVIEW

Public enemy number 1492: Charles Bremner on Christopher Columbus, an American hero now turning into an American villain

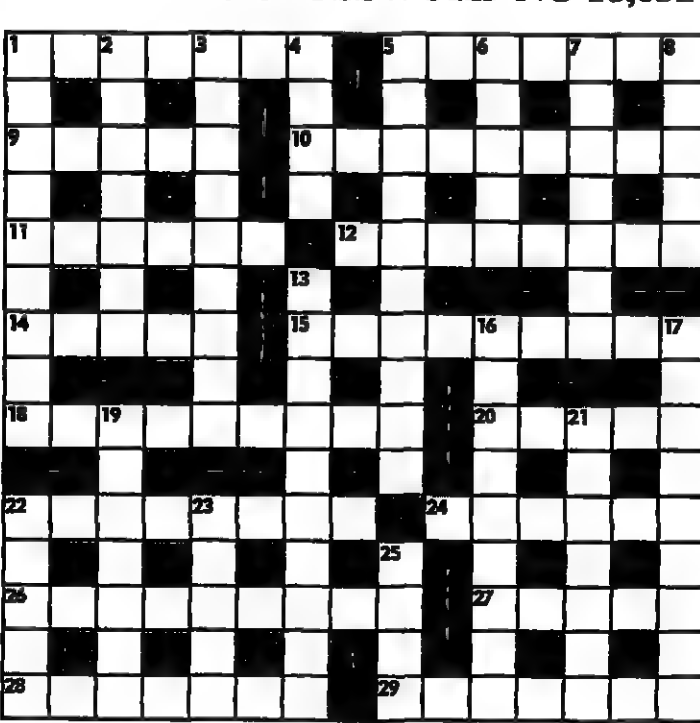
You can't park there: Joe Joseph on a Saudi sense of fun, the taste for state of the art roundabouts with built-in cars

The face of the voice: Valerie Grove talks to Miriam Margolyes, whose voice helped her to fame

A happy eater: Never mind PR stunts in motorway service areas, Jonathan Meades has found the real John Major Heritage Trail

Place an order for tomorrow's Times today

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,632



- ACROSS**
- "Fish" proclaims the fiancée (7).
  - Title of the French game (7).
  - A parliamentarian, I cheer up to some extent in recess (5).
  - Snowfall can have almost all sliding about (9).
  - One insignificant person runs into another (6).
  - Steal Jack's land (8).
  - Begone, soldiers! Over the top! (5).
  - A tax haven with tax returned eclipses another tax haven, that's self-evident (9).
  - Almost a disaster, discovering uranium missing (4,5).
  - To bake you need the right oven (5).
  - A light sweet (5-3).
  - Turn pale when it gets rough (6).
- DOWN**
- Transmits with no difficulty (5,4).
  - Detail about a title (7).
  - One close to home, with serious intentions (2,7).
  - Attack an animal (4).
  - Doctor and wife infiltrating 12's fortification (10).
  - Many a vessel (5).
  - Entrance bent, with top missing (7).
  - Fish was rank (5).
  - A novel form of transport if I try a trip (6,4).
  - Ceremony some days ago (5,4).
  - Batsmen may make off (3,3,3).
  - A movement, legal or otherwise (7).
  - Casters may employ her (7).
  - Writer's injuries (5).
  - Instrument - one covered in lead (5).
  - Thought to be not quite perfect (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,631

HAREM TRUMPETER  
GAMBLING  
UNPLEASANT  
CREASER  
RESISTANT  
MISDOING  
AIRBORN  
GLANCING  
EYES  
SIL  
RUBBISH  
CARTEL  
BATTERSEA  
BRIDGE  
LATTER  
BARBARIC  
UNBENDING  
ENNOBLED  
PUGNACITY  
ERRED

Concise crossword, page 21

## WORDWATCHING

By Philip Howard

- PYRRHOUS**  
a. Having disastrous victories  
b. Combustible  
c. Reddish
- SUCCADE**  
a. The kiss of life  
b. A Carthaginian officer  
c. Candel fruit
- PUTROIS**  
a. A male prostitute  
b. A polecat-hair brush  
c. Pidgeon French
- KEFFEL**  
a. The Irish coracle  
b. A horse or nag  
c. To find by accident

Answers on page 22

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- London & SE**
- C. London (within N & S Circa.) 731
  - M-ways/roads M4-M1 732
  - M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T. 733
  - M-ways/roads Dartford T-M25 734
  - M-ways/roads M25-M4 735
  - M25 London Orbital only 736

- National**
- National motorways 737
  - West Country 738
  - Wales 739
  - Midlands 740
  - East Anglia 741
  - North-west England 742
  - North-east England 743
  - Scotland 744
  - Northern Ireland 745

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## WEATHER

western areas, some heavy. Further south and east, a brighter start with showers around western coasts. Many eastern and southeastern areas will be mainly dry. Temperatures below average in most areas but nearer normal in the southeast. Rain from the west will reach many southern areas overnight. Outlook: cloudy with rain in the south at first, then generally showery everywhere.

## ABROAD

MIDDAY: 10-15; 16-20; 21-25; 26-30; 31-35; 36-40; 41-45; 46-50; 51-55; 56-60; 61-65; 66-70; 71-75; 76-80; 81-85; 86-90; 91-95; 96-100; 101-105; 106-110; 111-115; 116-120; 121-125; 126-130; 131-135; 136-140; 141-145; 146-150; 151-155; 156-160; 161-165; 166-170; 171-175; 176-180; 181-185; 186-190; 191-195; 196-200; 201-205; 206-210; 211-215; 216-220; 221-225; 226-230; 231-235; 236-240; 241-245; 246-250; 251-255; 256-260; 261-265; 266-270; 271-275; 276-280; 281-285; 286-290; 291-295; 296-300; 301-305; 306-310; 311-315; 316-320; 321-325; 326-330; 331-335; 336-340; 341-345; 346-350; 351-355; 356-360; 361-365; 366-370; 371-375; 376-380; 381-385; 386-390; 391-395; 396-400; 401-405; 406-410; 411-415; 416-420; 421-425; 426-430; 431-435; 436-440; 441-445; 446-450; 451-455; 456-460; 461-465; 466-470; 471-475; 476-480; 481-485; 486-490; 491-495; 496-500; 501-505; 506-510; 511-515; 516-520; 521-525; 526-530; 531-535; 536-540; 541-545; 546-550; 551-555; 556-560; 561-565; 566-570; 571-575; 576-580; 581-585; 586-590; 591-595; 596-600; 601-605; 606-610; 611-615; 616-620; 621-625; 626-630; 631-635; 636-640; 641-645; 646-650; 651-655; 656-660; 661-665; 666-670; 671-675; 676-680; 681-685; 686-690; 691-695; 696-700; 701-705; 706-710; 711-715; 716-720; 721-725; 726-730; 731-735; 736-740; 741-745; 746-750; 751-755; 756-760; 761-765; 766-770; 771-775; 776-780; 781-785; 786-790; 791-795; 796-800; 801-805; 806-810; 811-815; 816-820; 821-825; 826-830; 831-835; 836-840; 841-845; 846-850; 851-855; 856-860; 861-865; 866-870; 871-875; 876-880; 881-885; 886-890; 891-895; 896-900; 901-905; 906-910; 911-915; 916-920; 921-925; 926-930; 931-935; 936-940; 941-945; 946-950; 951-955; 956-960; 961-965; 966-970; 971-975; 976-980; 981-985; 986-990; 991-995; 996-1000; 1001-1005; 1006-1010; 1011-1015; 1016-1020; 1021-1025; 1026-1030; 1031-1035; 1036-1040; 1041-1045; 1046-1050; 1051-1055; 1056-1060; 1061-1065; 1066-1070; 1071-1075; 1076-1080; 1081-1085; 1086-1090; 1091-1095; 1096-1100; 1101-1105; 1106-1110; 1111-1115; 1116-1120; 1121-1125; 1126-1130; 1131-1135; 1136-1140; 1141-1145; 1146-1150; 1151-1155; 1156-1160; 1161-1165; 1166-1170; 1171-1175; 1176-1180; 1181-1185; 1186-1190; 1191-1195; 1196-1200; 1201-1205; 1206-1210; 1211-1215; 1216-1220; 1221-1225; 1226-1230; 1231-1235; 1236-1240; 1241-1245; 1246-1250; 1251-1255; 1256-1260; 1261-1265; 1266-1270; 1271-1275; 1276-1280; 1281-1285; 1286-1290; 1291-1295; 1296-1300; 1301-1305; 1306-1310; 1311-1315; 1316-1320; 1321-1325; 1326-1330; 1331-1335; 1336-1340; 1341-1345; 1346-1350; 1351-1355; 1356-1360; 1361-1365; 1366-1370; 1371-1375; 1376-1380; 1381-1385; 1386-1390; 1391-1395; 1396-1400; 1401-1405; 1406-1410; 1411-1415; 1416-1420; 1421-1425; 1426-1430; 1431-1435; 1436-1440; 1441-1445; 1446-1450; 1451-1455; 1456-1460; 1461-1465; 1466-1470; 1471-1475; 1476-1480; 1481-1485; 1486-1490; 1491-1495; 1496-1500; 1501-1505; 1506-1510; 1511-1515; 1516-1520; 1521-1525; 1526-1530; 1531-1535; 1536-1540; 1541-1545; 1546-1550; 1551-1555; 1556-1560; 1561-1565; 1566-1570; 1571-1575; 1576-1580; 1581-1585; 1586-1590; 1591-1595; 1596-1600; 1601-1605; 1606-1610; 1611-1615; 1616-1620; 1621-1625; 1626-1630; 1631-1635; 1636-1640; 1641-1645; 1646-1650; 1651-1655; 1656-1660; 1661-1665; 1666-1670; 1671-1675; 1676-1680; 1681-1685; 1686-1690; 1691-1695; 1696-1700; 1701-1705; 1706-1710; 1711-1715; 1716-1720; 1721-1725; 1726-1730; 1731-1735; 1736-1740; 1741-1745; 1746-1750; 1751-1755; 1756-1760; 1761-1765; 1766-1770; 1771-1775; 1776-1780; 1781-1785; 1786-1790; 1791-1795; 1796-1800; 1801-1805; 1806-1810; 1811-1815; 1816-1820; 1821-1825; 1826-1830; 1831-1835; 1836-1840; 1841-1845; 1846-1850; 1851-1855; 1856-1860; 1861-1865; 1866-1870; 1871-1875; 1876-1880; 1881-1885; 1886-1890; 1891-1895; 1896-1900; 1901-1905; 1906-1910; 1911-1915; 1916-1920; 1921-1925; 1926-1930; 1931-1935; 1936-1940; 1941-1945; 1946-1950; 1951-1955; 1956-1960; 1961-1965; 1966-1970; 1971-1975; 1976-1980; 1981-1985; 1986-1990; 1991-1995; 1996-2000; 2001-2005; 2006-2010; 2011-2015; 2016-2020; 2021-2025; 2026-2030; 2031-2035; 2036-2040; 2041-2045; 2046-2050; 2051-2055; 2056-2060; 2061-2065; 2066-2070; 2071-2075; 2076-2080; 2081-2085; 2086-2090; 2091-2095; 2096-2100; 2101-2105; 2106-2110; 2111-2115; 2116-2120; 2121-2125; 2126-2130; 2131-2135; 2136-2140; 2141-2145; 2146-2150; 2151-2155; 2156-2160; 2161-2165; 2166-2170; 2171-2175; 2176-2180; 2181-2185; 2186-2190; 2191-2195; 2196-2200; 2201-2205; 2206-2210; 2211-2215; 2216-2220; 2221-2225; 2226-2230; 2231-2235; 2236-2240; 2241-2245; 2246-2250; 2251-2255; 2256-2260; 2261-2265; 2266-2270; 2271-2275; 2276-2280; 2281-2285; 2286-2290; 2291-2295; 2296-2300; 2301-2305; 2306-2310; 2311-2315; 2316-2320; 2321-2325; 2326-2330; 2331-2335; 2336-2340; 2341-2345; 2346-2350; 2351-2355; 2356-2360; 2361-2365; 2366-2370; 2371-2375; 2376-2380; 2381-2385; 2386-2390; 2391-2395; 2396-2400; 2401-2405; 2406-2410; 2411-2415; 2416-2420; 2421-2425; 2426-2430; 2431-2435; 2436-2440; 2441-2445; 2446-2450; 2451-2455; 2456-2460; 2461-2465; 2466-2470; 2471-2475; 2476-2480; 2481-2485; 2486-2490; 2491-2495; 2496-2500; 2501-2505; 2506-2510; 2511-2515; 2516-2520; 2521-2525; 2526-2530; 2531-2535; 2536-2



Political sketch  
minder picked  
by computer

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● LAW 31  
● MOTORING 33  
● YACHTING 35  
● SPORT 37-40

# THE TIMES BUSINESS

FRIDAY JUNE 14 1991

25

Business Editor  
John Bell

## Johnson Matthey record

JOHNSON Matthey, the precious metals group, achieved record pre-tax profits of £66.8 million (£48.2 million) in the 12 months ended March 31. The final dividend rises to 6.25p (6p), making 9.25p (8.5p) for the year. A £4.8 million rationalisation programme is under way.

## Staveley rights

Staveley Industries, the measuring equipment group, is raising £27.4 million through a one-for-five rights issue at 150p to buy the 43 per cent of Weigh-Tronix, an American firm, that Staveley does not already own. In the year to end March, pre-tax profits rose 14.3 per cent to £28 million. A final dividend of 5.9p (5.5p) makes 8.2p (7.6p).

## WEEKEND MONEY TOMORROW

### PROFILE



Sir Peter Carey, the chairman of Delagty, calls in conversation with Gillian Bowditch that when he was a civil servant many people thought he was the prototype for Sir Humphrey of Yes, Minister

### BUYING ABROAD

Lindsay Cook and Barbara Ellis look at home ownership throughout Europe as British lenders introduce the British way of housebuying to the Continent

### POOR RETURNS

Sara McConnell looks at how a £2,000 investment with a company offering cheap share dealing turned into £324 after five years

### THE POUND

US dollar 1.6390 (-0.0075)  
German mark 2.9453 (-0.0028)  
Exchange index 90.1 (-0.2)

### STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1970.8 (-2.5)  
FT-SE 100 2614.6 (-5.6)  
New York Dow Jones 2857.07 (-4.92)  
Tokyo Nikkei Avge 24808.17 (+325.48)

### MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:  
Johnson Matthey 303½p (+10p)  
Cable & Wireless 537½p (+16p)  
First Technology 27½p (+8p)  
Lloyd Thompson 365p (+22p)  
Siebe 458½p (+15p)  
Falls:  
Land Securities 301½p (-8p)  
Davies & Newman 179½p (-11p)  
Stavely 216p (-13p)  
Auto Sec 373p (-18p)  
THORN EM 451p (-13p)  
Rank Org 684p (-11p)  
British Aerospace 587½p (-10p)

### INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 11½%  
3-month Interbank 11½-11¾%  
3-month eligible bills 10½-10¾%  
US: Prime Rate 8½%  
Federal Funds 5¼-5½%  
3-month Treasury Bills 5.58-5.57%  
30-year bonds 95¼-95½%

### CURRENCIES

London New York  
£ \$1 6390  
£ DM 1.9453  
£ Sfr 2.5208  
£ FF 9.3947  
£ Yen 231.59  
£ Index 90.1  
ECU 1.026861  
ECU 1.026861  
ECU 1.026861

### GOLD

London Fixing:  
AM \$369.40 pm \$369.70  
close \$369.20 \$369.70 (\$225.75-226.25)  
New York:  
Comex \$369.75 \$370.25

### NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jul) \$18.05 bbl (\$18.00)  
Denotes latest trading price

### RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 133.1 April (1987-100)

## Hanson moved £9.5bn of assets in secret restructuring

By ANGELA MACKAY

HANSON plc embarked on a secret restructuring in 1989, involving the valuation and internal purchase of £9.5 billion of group assets mostly held in Panamanian and Bermudan subsidiaries.

The 1989 accounts for Hanson Overseas Holdings, a company incorporated in March 1989, show it acquired a substantial portfolio of subsidiary companies for £9,518,540,000.

The accounts, filed last July and audited by Ernst & Young in Hull, explain the purchase price was determined by the directors on the basis of "valuations of each subsidiary which have primary regard either to the net assets or to the potential earnings of the relevant subsidiary".

HOH has four directors. Two, Derek Bonham and Anthony Alexander, are executive directors of Hanson plc; another, Graham Dransfield, is an associate director and the fourth, Martin Murray, is a solicitor employed by Hanson plc.

Analysts who follow Hanson for leading stockbroking houses, including Nomura and County NatWest, said they were unaware of any far-reaching internal restructuring of the Hanson group in 1989 or at any other time. There is no mention of a restructuring in the 1989 or 1990 annual report and accounts.

There is no indication in the HOH accounts of what assets were involved in the purchase. Most of the 42 subsidiaries that house the assets are described as

investment or group holding companies. Martin Taylor, a vice-chairman of Hanson plc, said the company had undergone "a major reorganisation of the ownership of the business because we had found that the management of various parts of the group did not match ownership".

He said the subsidiaries, listed in the HOH accounts as direct subsidiary companies that were acquired as part of the reorganisation, including those incorporated in Panama, Bermuda and Guernsey, contained "most of Hanson plc's assets certainly in the UK - the companies that do the trading".

Mr Taylor agreed this included companies such as Imperial Tobacco and SCM Chemicals, but not Consolidated Gold Fields,

which was being bought during the reorganisation, and some cash on deposit. He said the structure of the group had been simplified and that there had been no need to telegraph the reorganisation because "it made no difference on a consolidated basis".

On the surface, the organisation of the group did not change in 1989. The group was still divided into three divisions in Britain and America: industrial, building products and consumer. Several more associate directors have been appointed from the end of the 1989 financial year.

Mr Taylor did not comment on the tax implications of any major restructuring nor would he break down the individual values of companies that made up the £9.5 billion package. He said he could not

elaborate on how the directors arrived at the valuations. In the HOH accounts, the only clue offered is that the valuations based on earnings included the consideration of "the nature of business, earnings growth and valuations of similar businesses with Stock Exchange listings".

The valuation of the HOH portfolio of assets at £9.5 billion is lower than Hanson's market capitalisation at the end of the 1989 financial year of £11.4 billion - higher than the current market capitalisation of £10.6 billion. To put that in perspective, however, it should be noted that Hanson's current price/earnings ratio of 10.8 is well below the 13.3 reported at September 30, 1989.

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## Retailers suffer 8% slump in sales

# CBI reports more high street gloom

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT hopes of an imminent consumer-led recovery from recession appear over-optimistic, given the deep gloom of the latest survey from the Confederation of British Industry.

The quarterly distributive trades survey showed retail businesses returning to the poor state they were signalling early this year, with little

prospect of a sustained recovery in sales anticipated before year-end.

Retailers reported an 8 per cent slump in sales last month compared with May 1990, instead of the 12 per cent rise expected after flat sales in April and an 11 per cent pre-Budget jump in March.

Although a 13 per cent rise in sales is expected for this month, and business confidence is up, the CBI noted

that such hopes had been disappointed in the past.

Dole queues, forecast to continue growing long after the economy starts to recover, are seen as the main factor inhibiting consumer spending.

Nigel Whitaker, chairman of the CBI distributive trades panel, said: "The risk of unemployment has now taken over from high interest rates as the main factor denting consumers' confidence."

With trading conditions in the high street reverting to the position at the beginning of the year, Mr Whitaker saw "little chance of a sustained recovery in retail sales until the end of the year at least".

Last month, retailers reported dismissing part-time staff for the first time since the surveys began eight years ago.

American retailers saw strong sales in May, according to official data out yesterday, providing the latest evidence of recovery there. Retail sales rose 1 per cent, as demand rose on a broad front, surprising Wall Street forecasters. But wholesale prices shot up by a surprisingly sharp 0.6 per cent, the biggest gain for seven months, mainly due to energy and tobacco prices.

The dollar, reflecting optimism about American recovery and unchanged German interest rates, reached its highest level against the mark since November 1989, touching DM1.8090. At the London close, the dollar was 1.10 pence up at DM1.7995. The pound fell more than two cents to \$1.6390, and by a quarter of a penny to DM2.9454.

Stock market, page 31

## Rise in average earnings slows

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

A FURTHER decline in the rate of increase in average earnings has been claimed as encouraging by the government. The figures were announced yesterday, as John Banham, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, launched a stronger attack on the idea of more co-ordinated pay bargaining.

Data from the employment department showed that the underlying increase in average earnings across the economy fell in April, to 8.75 per cent, the fourth successive month to see a quarter-point fall.

Michael Howard, the employment secretary, said of the new figure: "This represents the longest sustained decline since the early Eighties and the annual rate of increase in average earnings is now a full 1.5 percentage points below its July 1990 peak." He said these were "encouraging signs". Mr

Banham welcomed the decline in earnings, but said the "credulous" were now "tempted to return to the failed solutions of the past" in advocating a national economic assessment, which the Labour party and the TUC had been promoting.

Emphasising the need for relating pay to performance, Mr Banham said: "The lesson of the last three years is not that we should return to the days of beer and sandwiches. Rather it is that we must redouble our efforts to squeeze inflation out of the economy."

He said there was no evidence that trade unions could or even wanted to "deliver" their members' support for a national going rate. "The dispute between the electricians, engineering and general and municipal unions over minimum wage proposals show how little agreement there is."



Seeking a level playing field: Marjorie Mowlam yesterday calling for stronger leadership for financial services

## Mowlam wants City to be strong

THE financial services industry needs stronger leadership to give the strategic direction necessary to face competition from Europe, says Marjorie Mowlam, Labour's corporate and City affairs spokeswoman (Colin Narbrough writes).

She made clear in lunchtime remarks to accountants at Lincoln's Inn Fields that she would like a future enterprise department to address the matter with urgency.

"The Financial Services Act is not working for consumers or for the industry," Dr Mowlam said. A central problem was the unclear relationship between the government and the Securities and Investments Board.

As members of the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants sought to keep up with Dr Mowlam's breakneck delivery, she revealed her concern about the complicity being displayed over the City's future. She highlighted the lack of any institution with a general overview of the financial services.

Given the close coordination between governments and the private sector in other parts of Europe, the City was clearly not on a level playing field. But she added that there would be no return to the corporatism of Sixties.

## L&M incurs £100m loss

By MATTHEW BOND

THE pain continues at London & Metropolitan, the property developer, although the company's latest figures suggest losses are now accruing more slowly.

Yesterday, L&M announced pre-tax losses of £100 million for the year to end December, compared with a pre-tax profit of £10.4 million in 1989.

Even in the volatile property sector, the speed at which the company has plunged from modest profit to substantial loss is remarkable.

Most of the latest losses,

however, were evident in the interim figures, which revealed pre-tax losses of £88.8 million, after the value of the company's investments and developments was written down by £84 million.

For the full year these provisions have risen to £88 million.

Having gained a stock market quote in 1986, L&M shares were suspended in October last year when the consortium that planned to redevelop London's County Hall collapsed.

The shares resumed trading

only three months ago after a rescue refinancing involving a debt-for-equity swap was supported by the Bank of Scotland.

The refinancing also saw the departure of David Lewis, L&M's chief executive.

In the last five months to company has sold 13 properties worth £18.5 million in total.

Despite the sales, the company still has a negative net worth.

Its shares closed ¼p down at 4½p. As expected, there was no dividend (6.65p).

In 1990 the consensus was a soft landing.  
In 1991 the consensus is early recovery.

At Pyrford International we are wary of "consensus".  
Our performance speaks for itself.

| Pyrford Fund Returns   | Pyrford Fund A | Pyrford Fund B | CAPS Benchmark Fund |
|--|----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Return in 1990   | +2.4%          | +3.8%          | -10.5%              |
| Average Annual Compound rate of return 3 years to 31st December 1990 | +13.3%         | N/A            | +9.4%               |

\*Please note that past performance is no guarantee of future performance

N.B. & L. & L.

We would welcome the opportunity to tell you why we believe the consensus is wrong again.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, BRUCE CAMPBELL



PYRFORD INTERNATIONAL PLC  
WORLDWIDE ASSET MANAGERS

74 Grosvenor Street, London W1A 9DE. Telephone (071) 495 4841. Telex (071) 499 5001  
LONDON MELBOURNE AUCKLAND NEWCASTLE

## Profit hopes for Mercury

By MARTIN WALLER

MERCURY, the telephone offshoot of Cable & Wireless, will be cash-positive and contributing to profits in two years time, even after the heavy spending needed to expand the network, C&W says.

Pre-tax profits rose from £527 million to £609 million in the year to end-March but trading profits were barely changed at £563 million as the

group suffered from the strong pound. The United Kingdom and Europe, which includes Mercury, was the only one of C&W's four regions to show a profits increase.

A final dividend of 8.1p makes 11.8p (10p). Mercury saw trading profits rise by 75 per cent to £116 million on turnover 47 per cent higher at £702 million. C&W predicts

capital spending will be £1 billion a year in each of the next three years and Mercury will swallow £450 million of this.

Lord Young, chairman, said the underlying business remained strong with turnover and pre-tax profit growing by 23 and 31 per cent respectively in local currencies.

Tempus, page 27

Comment, page 27

## SE attacks trading protectionism

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT

ANDREW Hugh Smith, the chairman of the London Stock Exchange, has accused continental countries of protectionism in drawing up rules for a single European Community market in investment services, in order to stifle competition and undermine London's existing advantage in cross-border securities trading.

Mr Hugh Smith made it clear that the Stock Exchange regarded the proposed Euroquote share trading system as a linked attempt to replace London's pan-European trading by ensuring that each Community member state would be able to protect its local exchange.

The Stock Exchange has rejected the Euroquote proposals as "a totally uncommercial approach" in which technological developments would determine market decisions about securities



Hugh Smith: disturbed

trading. Mr Hugh Smith said they were also clearly designed to compete with London's Seaq International system and would, therefore, not be in London's interest.

The Seaq International system, which accounts for about half London share trading, handles more than two-thirds

of cross-border trading in equities and a far higher percentage of cross-border trading in shares of companies based in the Community. Under the draft investment services directive Seaq International would not qualify as a recognised exchange.

"We could not live with directive as it stands" Mr Hugh Smith said. The trade department said that it would not agree to the existing draft, which was drawn up under the expiring Luxembourg EC presidency to accommodate proposals from France. Under the draft directive, existing cross-border trade might be eliminated under a supposed single market.

In the Stock Exchange's annual report, Mr Hugh Smith writes: "There are now disturbing signs, in more than one member state, of pre-emptive legislation, designed to enable domestic firms to establish protected market positions ahead of the single

market. There is an increasing tendency for trade protection to be promoted aggressively."

The Stock Exchange, which has seen its proposals for a Europe-wide wholesale share market rejected, envisages one European market, based on a modified form of Seaq International, catering for institutional and professional trading in international companies, alongside national markets trading in smaller firms and smaller amounts.

In the year to March 24, the Stock Exchange made a trading surplus of £2.1 million on revenues little changed at £5.1 million, but a net loss of £5.1 million after development spending of £16.4 million.

Peter Rawlins, the chief executive was paid £249,000. Mr Hugh Smith said Mr Rawlins' salary was slightly lower than the £160,000 paid to his predecessor but he also received incentive payments.



## Reshuffle at FKI after profits fall

By MICHAEL TATE, CITY EDITOR

LESS than two years after its demerger from Babcock International, FKI must restructure again. All operations are under review and Norman Scouler, the chief executive, expects to make more disposals after four undertaken in the past 12 months.

### Amber Day in £24.4m rights issue

AMBER Day Holdings, the discount retail group, is raising £24.4 million via a rights issue to fund the development of its successful What Every-one Wants shopping chain. Shareholders are being offered one new share for every three held at 83p each. The offer is underwritten by Samuel Montagu. Existing shares fell from 101½p to 98p.

After a strong first half, when taxable profits trebled, Philip Green, the chairman, has forecast pre-tax profits of not less than £9.75 million for the full year, an increase of 223 per cent, with earnings of at least 6.82p (4.28p) a share. A final dividend of 1.7p a share is forecast, making 2.6p for the year, up 30 per cent.

gin activities likely to be axed.

News of the review accompanied results for the year to March, showing pre-tax profits down from £54.7 million to £40.1 million. Mr Scouler blamed the weak dollar, which cost about £4.5 million, higher interest charges and the British and American recessions.

The final dividend is cut from 2p to 1.3p, reducing the total from 4p to 3.3p, although Mr Scouler argues that this is equivalent to an unchanged payment if the absence of any contribution from the demerged business is taken into account. Earnings are 6.71p against 9.38p.

There are also extraordinary charges of £16.9 million in connection with the rationalisation programme to date. About two-thirds relates to the imminent closure of a rail equipment factory.

The outlook for the present year is not much brighter. In his statement, Jeff Whalley, the FKI chairman, says there are "signs that the bottom of the trough may be approaching", but so far the only recovery is in one or two niche businesses in America.

Automation performed well enough, with every unit contributing higher profits, but transportation, while profitable overall, was unsatisfactory.

Losses were recorded by some parts of the engineering division.

## Welsh Water boosts payout

By OUR FINANCIAL STAFF

Welsh Water has increased its dividend by 16.4 per cent to 19.5p, after pre-tax profits of £128 million in the year to end March, up 32 per cent from the pro forma estimate for 1989-90, thanks to higher than expected interest on its "green dowry" cash holdings of £187 million.

The dividend rise appears to exceed the guidelines suggested by Ian Byatt, the director general of water services. Welsh Water has, however, responded to Mr Byatt's concerns with commitments to accelerated or unscheduled capital spending from its higher than expected profits.

Some £25 million has been committed for treatment to coastal sewage outfalls, which was not included in the group's first five-year investment programme. Welsh Water has accelerated £10 million of spending on water quality and is allocating £10 million for grants to customers to replace lead pipes. The group invested £160 million last year, meeting its objectives.

Turnover rose 15 per cent to £293 million. This included £28 million outside the utility business, earning operating profits of £300,000. Net operating costs in the core business rose by only 3.2 per cent to £198 million.

John Elford Jones, the chairman, said the 10 per cent stake in South Wales Electricity, bought last year, which is thought to have triggered Mr Byatt's new rules on diversification, would not draw funds or management resources from the core business.



'Always difficult': Chris Wright, chairman, says this year's losses were expected

## Chrystalis loses £2.85m

By MARTIN WALLER

THE economic downturn, the Gulf war and other factors sent Chrystalis Group, the quoted record company with other entertainment interests, into a £2.85 million pre-tax loss for the half year to end February (£487,000 profit).

Shareholders will forego the interim dividend as a result. Last year a half-way payment of 2p was made.

Chris Wright, the chairman, said the losses were expected. "I expect next year will be quite a good year. But this year was always going to be difficult," he said.

Chrystalis suffered a dearth

of substantial record releases, particularly in the important Christmas period, and other problems connected with its roster of artists.

Stock market observers say the group is not expected to make a profit in the current financial year despite improved fortunes and a number one hit in the British charts in the third quarter.

The performance of the other activities was mixed. The Lago export business and the music publishing companies made increased profits, but communications and media suffered from lack

of demand in the run-up to the television franchise round and amusement machines were badly affected by the downturn in leisure spending.

Mr Wright said it was difficult to be optimistic about short-term trading prospects.

Chrystalis promises a reduction in group overheads and capital expenditure, including a freeze on directors' and senior management salaries.

The shares, which saw an upsurge in March on rumours of a management buy-out or a full bid from Thorn EMI, joint owner of the record business, dropped 2p to 79p.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Smith New Court profits drop 48%

PRE-TAX profits at Smith New Court, the securities group, plunged 48 per cent to £7.57 million in the year ended April 26, well short of market forecasts of about £10 million. But SNC has raised the total dividend from 3p to 3.5p. Fully diluted earnings per share slumped from 16.8p to 8.8p.

Profits in the first half were depressed by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, which caused business to evaporate in August and September. An extraordinary profit of £2.5 million, compared with a £4.1 million loss last time, was mainly derived from the sale of the lease on the former headquarters.

### Zeiss firms to merge

THE merger between the two Carl Zeiss optical companies, which split after the second world war, is going ahead after Treuhander, the eastern German privatisation agency, agreed to pay DM2.7 billion for the restructuring of Carl Zeiss Jena.

### Ernst faces SEC suit

THE Securities and Exchange Commission said it had filed a suit in America against Ernst & Young, the auditor, for allegedly misleading disclosures by the firm's predecessor, Arthur Young and Co, in connection with Republic Bank Corp.

### Sabena subsidy near

EUROPEAN Transport Commissioner Karel Van Miert is set to approve a Bfr 56.4bn (£925 million) Belgian government subsidy to help loss-making state airline Sabena, a European Commission spokesman said yesterday.

Van Miert expects Belgium to promise that the rescue package is a one-off item and that the government will make way for more competition with Sabena, the spokesman said. If those conditions are met, Van Miert is likely to ask his colleagues in the European Commission for backing and give approval in July.

### Finlay holds total payout

JAMES Finlay, the diversified plantations and tea group, reports pre-tax profits of £9.7 million (£12.3 million) for 1990 on turnover of £149.1 million (£183.5 million). A second interim dividend of 2.15p holds the total at 4.15p. Earnings per share were 6.2p (6.5p).

### HTV chiefs take pay cut

NON-EXECUTIVE directors at HTV Group, the Welsh and west England ITV franchise-holder, will waive part of their salaries while executives face a wage freeze, Louis Sherwood, chairman, told the annual meeting. The payments waived total £34,000.

# Growth worldwide pays dividends

- Profit before taxation has increased by 16% to £609m - an increase of £82m.
- Recommended full year dividend increased by 18% to 11.8p.
- Turnover exceeded £2.5 billion - an increase of 12%.
- Mercury trading profit has increased by 75% to £116m.



## CABLE & WIRELESS ANNUAL RESULTS

| (Audited Results)              | 1991<br>£m | 1990<br>£m | %<br>Growth |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Turnover                       | 2,593      | 2,316      | 12%         |
| Profit before taxation         | 609        | 527        | 16%         |
| Earnings per share             | 31.3p      | 31.3p      | -           |
| Recommended dividend per share | 11.8p      | 10.0p      | 18%         |

## CABLE & WIRELESS

NEW MERCURY HOUSE, 28 RED LION SQUARE, LONDON WC1R 4UQ.

Recommended final dividend of 8.1p payable 1st October 1991.

The full Report and Accounts, on which the auditors have issued an unqualified report, will be posted to shareholders on 21st June 1991. Copies will be available from the Company Secretary. If you have any enquiries as a Cable & Wireless shareholder, please call us in the UK on 071-315 4465, or in the US on (212) 593-4813.

## LIG lifts annual dividend

By OUR CITY STAFF

MORE demand for condoms because of growing Aids fears and population concerns helped inflate pre-tax profits of London International Group from £36.5 million to £39.3 million in the year to March.

But after a £5.8 million exceptional item relating to the ten-year £50 million convertible bond issued in 1987 - holders of which may, and are thought likely to, opt for an increase in the coupon next March, rather than convert - the pre-tax figure drops to £33.5 million.

After exceptional, earnings per share ease to 17.4p (18.7p) but shareholders will collect a final dividend of 6.25p, making 9.25p for the year (8.35p). Alan Woltz, the chairman, says that, besides condoms, which account for something under a quarter of group profits, the Biogel surgeons' gloves business performed well, achieving almost 10 per cent of its target market in America, while cough and cold cures and toiletries also progressed.

But the UK recession and losses in Spain affected its photoprocessing division, the largest independent in Europe, where profits fell £2 million to £14.5 million. The Spanish business has been closed, at the cost of £7.8 million.

## YJ Lovell falls 60% at halfway

YJ LOVELL, the housebuilder and contractor, has reported pre-tax profits of £1.5 million for the six months to end March, 60 per cent down on a year ago.

Lovell's shares have been boosted by Taylor Woodrow raising its stake to 4.9 per cent of Lovell's ordinary equity. The interim dividend is maintained at 2.2p.

Tate & Lyle, the British sweetener group, is to extend its Aus\$4.10 (£1.89) a share takeover bid for Bundaberg Sugar to July 9, but the offer, which is final, will lapse if it does not receive 50 per cent acceptances by June 28.

## BAT result

The German operations of BAT, the tobacco and financial services group, recorded an operating profit rise from DM266 million (£90.4 million) to DM307 million last year.

## Cray undecided

Cray Electronics is undecided on whether to continue bidding for SD-Scicon, the software company, after the emergence of a rival £116.2 million offer from Electronic Data Systems, a subsidiary of General Motors. Cray has until Monday to decide whether to revise its offer.

## COMPANY BRIEFS

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>CHILTERN RADIO (Int)</b><br>Pre-tax: Loss £234,000<br>EPS: 2.5p (EPS: 4.5p)<br>Div: 1p (1p)        | Pre-tax profit last time was £403,000. Turnover £1.75 million (£1.89 million). Board is confident that its strategy is sound.            |
| <b>BRADSTOCK GROUP (Int)</b><br>Pre-tax: £3.73m (£4.02m)<br>EPS: 4.3p (4.3p)<br>Div: 1.35p (1.25p)    | Second half of year expected to follow a similar pattern. Last year's earnings and dividend are adjusted for a scrip issue.              |
| <b>HARBOR INDEX (Fin)</b><br>Pre-tax: £3.42m (£3.37m)<br>EPS: 13.8p (13.3p)<br>Div: 4.4p, mkg 8.8p    | Total dividend last time was 8p. Plans for next year include a broadening of activities of health and safety division.                   |
| <b>ERSKINE HOUSE (Fin)</b><br>Pre-tax: £12.1m (£15.6m)<br>EPS: 14.5p (19.7p)<br>Div: 4.95p, mkg 6.65p | Total dividend is unchanged from previous year. Net debt cut by £10m to £41.3m. Interest cover improved from 3.1 to 3.3.                 |
| <b>ELSWICK (Fin)</b><br>Pre-tax: £2.22m (£2.42m)<br>EPS: 1.02p (1.58p)<br>Div: 0.38p, mkg 0.8p        | Total dividend is unchanged. Redundancy and other expenses totalling £51,000 have been treated as exceptional items.                     |
| <b>ELDRIDGE, POPE (Int)</b><br>Pre-tax: Loss £264,000<br>EPS: 1.3p (EPS: 0.2p)<br>Div: 0.875p (1.75p) | Pre-tax profit last time was £51,000. Given good weather and easing of the recession, group has the better half year ahead of it.        |
| <b>BTP (Fin)</b><br>Pre-tax: £18m (£17.2m)<br>EPS: 15.81p (13.84p)<br>Div: 5.45p, mkg 8.4p            | Total dividend last time was 7.85p. Group continues to perform well and has achieved budget in the first two months of the current year. |
| <b>WATSON &amp; PHILIP (Int)</b><br>Pre-tax: £4.2m (£3.8m)<br>EPS: 9.3p (8.3p)<br>Div: 4p (3.1p)      | The board is "cautiously optimistic" of further progress for the remainder of the year. Turnover £220.6m (£205.3m).                      |
| <b>LOCKER (THOMAS) (Fin)</b><br>Pre-tax: £1.64m (£3.01m)<br>EPS: 2.75p (4.6p)<br>Div: 1.1p, mkg 1.8p  | Total dividend is unchanged. Turnover £40.5m (£43.3m). Board warns of "significantly lower profit" in first half of current year.        |
| <b>ML HOLDINGS (Fin)</b><br>Pre-tax: £5.3m (£10.8m)<br>EPS: 8.3p (13.8p)<br>Div: 2.6p, mkg 3.45p      | Total dividend is unchanged. A number of acquisition opportunities have been identified. Gearing is 79 per cent.                         |
| <b>CROPPER (JAMES) (Fin)</b><br>Pre-tax: £1.48m (£1.02m)<br>EPS: 15p (12p)<br>Div: 1.925p, mkg 2.9p   | Total dividend for previous year was 2.7p. A reasonable start has been made to current year with near normal running conditions.         |
| <b>RCO HOLDINGS (Int)</b><br>Pre-tax: £2.08m (£1.73m)<br>EPS: 12.48p (10.25p)                         | Directors confident year's figures will "comfortably exceed" last year. Interim dividend 4.2p (3.5p).                                    |
| <b>GREENCORE (Int)</b><br>Pre-tax: £124.4m<br>EPS: 117.32p (114.29p)                                  | Pre-tax profit last time, £111.65m. "Satisfactory outcome" expected for full year. No interim (same).                                    |

## James Cropper PLC

The following are the unaudited preliminary figures for the year ended 30th March, 1991:

| Group Profit and Loss Account                  | 1991<br>£'000 | 1990<br>£'000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Turnover                                       | 39,374        | 39,148        |
| Profit before taxation and extraordinary items | 1,476         | 1,024         |
| Taxation                                       | 280           | 44            |
| Profit before extraordinary items              | 1,226         | 980           |
| Extraordinary items                            | -             | 98            |
| Profit attributable to shareholders            | 1,226         | 1,048         |
| Dividends:                                     |               |               |
| Interim - 0.975p (1990 0.875p)                 | 80            | 71            |
| Proposed final - 1.025p (1990 1.025p)          | 128           | 148           |
| Amount set aside to reserves                   | 988           | 828           |
| Earnings per share of 25p                      | 15.0p         | 12.0p         |

Pre-tax profits have increased by 44% compared to last year, with good performances from the papermaking and converting divisions. The decline in pulp prices benefited the first half year. Margins weakened during the second half year as the recession affected the company's markets.

The main achievement has been the replacement of No. 3 MC Machine with a very advanced 3.25 metre wide Fourdrinier Machine without too seriously affecting the profits of the year.

Although the present trading conditions are difficult, a reasonable start has been made to the current year with near normal running conditions.

The major investments in plant and machinery and in a well trained work force put the company in a strong position to benefit from any upturn in the economy.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at Burnside Mills, Kendal, on Thursday, 1st August, 1991, at 10.30 a.m.



## Hanson's low-key reshuffle

It is a rum affair indeed when one of Britain's largest companies carries out a substantial reorganisation of its businesses without telling shareholders. Hanson has done exactly that. And the scale of the exercise would suggest that a passing remark or two might be in order. Directors of the subsidiary involved, who interestingly do not include either Lord Hanson or Lord White, have attributed a value of more than £9.5 billion to the companies concerned.

Nothing like that amount is shown in the consolidated accounts for 1989, when the reorganisation took place. At the end of the financial year, September 30, tangible assets were listed in the accounts as having a value of £2.4 billion while investments were included at just short of £1 billion. Mr Martin Taylor, the vice chairman, said yesterday that since the reorganisation, which involved a network of companies in well established tax havens, made no difference to the consolidated group accounts, it was not detailed. Shareholders of Hanson, and even those of ICI,

may not find it easy to understand just how the bulk of this £9.5 billion washes out of the accounts when they are consolidated, but Mr Taylor declined to give further details.

There is doubtless a perfectly innocent explanation for the mysterious Hanson Overseas Holdings company. But its precise role in the empire and its involvement with tax-havens is opaque to say the least. This lack of clarity may not trouble investors at large in normal times. But these are far from normal times for Hanson. As long as Hanson is believed to be planning a bid for our largest chemicals company, and even more so if a bid is forthcoming, the philosophy, style and operational techniques of the group will be subjected to a great deal of scrutiny.

Hanson's image was damaged by its bid for the Imperial Group which successfully raised issues such as Hanson's ability to grow

the businesses which it has acquired over the years, its use of perfectly allowable but highly favourable accounting conventions, and its need for ever greater takeovers in order to maintain its pattern of growth.

Revelations of a £9.5 billion reorganisation, conducted with a minimum of reference to shareholders, are unlikely to soothe concerns which linger after the Imperial takeover.

### Brave words

One of Yes, Minister's best running jokes was when Sir Humphrey Appleby, the smoothly manipulative permanent secretary, described the hapless Jim Hacker's latest notion as "brave". White-faced, Hacker would clutch at a passing

table, terrified by the electorally-disastrous vision of doing something brave in politics.

Michael Howard is a brave man. The employment secretary yesterday boldly went where no-one has gone before: he suggested that the rate of increase in unemployment may have slowed down.

Backed up by some improvements in unemployment flows, by the smaller than expected rise in unemployment last month, and by May's increase being the smallest so far this year, Mr Howard chose to disregard other details. Yesterday's rise was also the largest increase in unemployment in May on record. Despite the sick figures from the CBI on spending in the high street, he seemed to be starting to see a recovery.

Two points are clear. The first

is that the dreadful and lengthy post-Christmas roll-call of job losses has eased. At the beginning of the year, hardly a day went by without yet another company tolling out large-scale redundancy figures. No-one seemed immune: from tiny companies in the west Midlands which made no news columns beyond their local weekly papers, to Marks and Spencer and IBM, the job cuts came. Unsurprisingly, the unemployment figures soared.

That is no longer the case. The rate and number of such announcements is noticeably less than it was, though that is not to say that the recession has yet stopped claiming its victims.

But against Mr Howard's brave suggestion is the idea, becoming clearer with each worthwhile business survey and potentially ready to be given full shape in the CBI's authoritative quarterly trends survey next month, that what looked like an improvement in March may

have been only temporary, and that a recovery, far from starting in the second half of this year, may now with luck get underway as the year draws to a close.

If that is the case, and next month's unemployment figures show an increase substantially larger than yesterday's rise, Mr Howard's suggestion - however cautious - of an easing of unemployment could look very brave indeed.

### Labour warns

There was a sting in the tail of the impressively delivered speech yesterday by Dr Marjorie Mowlem, Labour's spokeswoman City and corporate affairs.

Dr Mowlem delivered a not so veiled warning to accountants that a Labour Government would be ready to enact reforms which go far beyond those already in train. Her remarks implied a judgment that Labour is unhappy with the essentially self-regulatory regime currently in force and prefers control by statute.

## Doubts outweigh profits in judging C&W rating

GIVEN that the annual figures from Cable and Wireless do little to mitigate the uncertainties that have had the shares underperforming the market over the past year, it is hard to see what prompted a 16p jump in the share price to 537p yesterday.

C&W came in with a pre-tax figure of £609 million for the year, up from £527 million and at the top end of forecasts. Profits were depressed by £80 million because of the strength of sterling against the dollar. Set against this, net interest and other income swung from a £47 million deficit to a £32 million profit.

This last figure highlights the rate at which cash is flowing out to fund C&W's capital expenditure programme. In March 1990 the group received £800 million from the Chinese for part of its holding in Hong Kong Telecom, boosting interest earned in the early part of the 1990-1 financial year, by the end of the year cash balances were £500 million lighter and C&W was a net borrower again.

Over the next three years gearing is pledged to rise no further than the mid-30s. By that time, Mercury, on the latest internal forecast, will be cash-positive. The concerns remain Hong Kong post-1997, despite soothing noises reported by Lord Young, the C&W chairman, on visits to Beijing; the duopoly review; personal communications networks (PCNs) and price-cutting by British Telecom on international lines.

The uncertainties make a premium rating of nearly 16 times prospective earnings, assuming £720 million pre-tax this year, hard to justify. The shares could continue to benefit short term from further switching from BT and Rascal Telecom, but on a medium-term view, outperformance seems unlikely.

### Staveley

IT IS only 15 months since Staveley Industries, the mineral salt to measuring equipment group, had a rights issue. Then, it was a 1-for-4 call at 150p to pay for Howe Richardson deal. They fell



Share price beset by uncertainties: Gordon Owen, the managing director (left), announcing the C&W 1991 results with Lord Young, the chairman, yesterday

ardison, an American industrial weighing business whose main appeal was its European operations.

Now, the company has weighed in with a 1-for-5 issue, again at 150p. The £27.4 million proceeds are to be used to acquire the minority interest in Weigh-Tronix, Staveley's other American measurement business.

The \$19 a share offer for the 43 per cent of Weigh-Tronix not already owned should account for about £14 million. Although the size of the uncommitted balance raised some eyebrows, the company is reasonably convincing when it argues that the additional money will keep gearing to the modest level at which Staveley can safely look for add-on acquisitions. Assuming the Weigh-Tronix deal goes through on current terms, gearing will drop from a year-end 42 per cent to 12 per cent.

The results for the year suggest Staveley is surviving the recession just about as well as can be expected. Pre-tax profits advanced 14.3 per cent to £28 million, with earnings per share showing only modest decline, due to the Howe Richardson deal. They fell

from 21.6p to 21.2p. The total dividend is 8.2p (7.6p).

Further modest dilution looks inevitable this year, assuming the Weigh-Tronix deal goes through. Recession will effectively counter the beneficial impacts of the rights issue proceeds and, according to Smith New Court, the company will do well to make £27.5 million profits this year.

At 180p, the shares are marginally above their theoretical ex-rights price, which is on an adjusted price/earnings multiple of ten. Uncertainty.

### Johnson Matthey

THE new management knife that has peeled Johnson Matthey like an onion, trimming JM from 77 business units to 35 units, has further operations to perform in 1991. But a more efficient and financially stronger JM has emerged after £14 million of rationalisation costs that were charged against the previous year's profits and a further £4.8 million charged against latest profits.

The first proof of a recovery that was just waiting to hap-

pen is record pre-tax profits of £66.8 million for the year ended March 31 - achieved despite the recession - compared with profits of £48.2 million previously.

Certain JM interests that are not yet achieving the targeted returns of 20 per cent on net assets are now receiving the surgeon's attention and, but for currency movements, operating profits would have been £3.7 million higher.

JM's final dividend goes up from 6p to 6.25p, making 9.25p (8.5p), and after a gross £5.3 million exceptional profit generated by shedding surplus rhodium stocks, there should be a further rhodium stock profit this year.

JM's results are an encouraging pointer to Charter Consolidated, holder of 38.6 per cent and reporting on Tuesday, though investors banking on a JM takeover play must first wait for Minorco (owner of 36 per cent of Charter and with its own direct platinum connections to consider) to play its hand.

JM looks set for pre-tax profits of about £69 million this year and, at 304p, up 10p, trades on 12.2 times prospective earnings. Buy.

## Jury is still out over rise in jobless

UNEMPLOYMENT in the current recession may be following the pattern of the previous major downturn in the early Eighties, according to calculations by the employment department.

The calculations suggest that if this is the case, then the rate of increase in unemployment may have passed its peak.

The figures worked out by employment department officials are being used to support the government's contention, declared yesterday, that in overall terms, unemployment may be easing.

While Whitehall officials expect unemployment to continue to rise for many months, they believe that if the current pattern of unemployment is following that of 1980-1, then the worst of the monthly increases in the number of people out of work may now have passed.

Although this is a tentative conclusion, if correct, it is likely to be of some comfort to ministers, companies and employees.

Ministers have been open to criticism over the speed at which unemployment is rising. Some unemployment analysts suggest that this statistic is of greater importance to people than the

overall number of those without work.

As the recession of the early Eighties started to bite, so unemployment started to increase. It actually started to rise consistently in November 1979, when it stood at 1,044,300, and continued to rise until its peak of 3,124,000 in July 1986.

But over that period, the pattern of the monthly increases was rather different, starting with a rise of 10,700 and moving up relatively smoothly to a peak monthly

monthly increases continued, not quite steadily, but on a very clear upward trend, until March of this year, when unemployment rose 111,200 to 2,091,000.

So far, in this round of rising unemployment, that has been the peak increase. Since then, the rises, although there are only two months' worth, have been markedly less: 82,600 in April, to a total of 2,173,600, and then yesterday's figure for May of 70,600, to a total of 2,244,200.

Running through the two

months of the early Eighties was at its worst in the first quarter of 1981, two or three months after the unemployment rises passed their peak. When this recession will bottom out is the subject of speculation among economists, but if the forecasts of the Treasury, the Confederation of British Industry and others are close to being right, then the recovery will come in the second half of this year - a few months after what may be the peak increase in unemployment in this cycle.

Backed up by improvements in the numbers both joining and leaving the unemployment count in May, and some improvement in vacancies, the government's claim that the rises in unemployment may perhaps have now peaked cannot be anything other than tentative. But if the improvement in the economy in March turns out to be a blip, and yesterday's poor figures from the CBI on high street sales suggest it might, then as a lagging indicator, the rise in unemployment in March may turn out not to be the peak. The argument over unemployment still looks wide open.

The pattern fits, too, with the stages each recession had reached by the time the rise in

Michael Howard is unlikely to be happy with a repeat of a five-year unemployment tail

increase of 109,600 in October 1980. Although the figures continued to rise for five years after that, at no point was the monthly increase ever that large again.

Now, employment department officials are wondering whether that pattern is repeating itself. From its 1986 peak, unemployment fell for 3½ years to March last year, when it started to increase again, from 1,606,600.

After that, the pattern of

sets of figures, the pattern is similar: the rapidly accelerating rate to an early peak (and at roughly the same level), then a slow decline in the rate of increase. Ministers will be distressed if the pattern is followed too closely: Michael Howard, the employment secretary, is unlikely to be happy with a repeat of a five-year unemployment tail.

The pattern fits, too, with the stages each recession had reached by the time the rise in

employment peaked. The downturn of the early Eighties was at its worst in the first quarter of 1981, two or three months after the unemployment rises passed their peak. When this recession will bottom out is the subject of speculation among economists, but if the forecasts of the Treasury, the Confederation of British Industry and others are close to being right, then the recovery will come in the second half of this year - a few months after what may be the peak increase in unemployment in this cycle.

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PHILIP BASSETT  
Industrial Editor

## NEW INVESTMENT RATES FROM THE BRISTOL & WEST

Effective 20th June 1991

| ACCOUNT   | AMOUNT INVESTED                                 | GROSS RATE OF INTEREST PA*                  | GROSS C.A.R.**                     | NET†                             |
|---|---|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| BRISTOL TRIPLE BONUS (New accounts not available.)  | £25,000+<br>£10,000+<br>£5,000+<br>£500+        | 8.25%<br>7.75%<br>7.25%<br>6.25%            |                                    | 6.19%<br>5.81%<br>5.44%<br>4.69% |
| Rates also apply to Bristol Plus Account.   |   |   |                                    |                                  |
| No. 1 INCOME (New accounts not available.) Interest payable monthly.                        | £50,000+<br>£25,000+<br>£10,000+<br>£500+       | 9.57%<br>9.11%<br>8.65%<br>7.72%            | 10.00%<br>9.50%<br>9.00%<br>8.00%  | 7.42%<br>7.05%<br>6.69%<br>5.95% |
| BRISTOL TRIPLE BONUS MONTHLY INCOME (New accounts not available.) Interest payable monthly. | £10,000+<br>£5,000+<br>£500+                    | 7.49%<br>7.02%<br>6.08%                     | 7.75%<br>7.25%<br>6.25%            | 5.77%<br>5.40%<br>4.66%          |
| OVERSEAS MONTHLY INCOME (Interest payable monthly.)   | £25,000+<br>£10,000+<br>£5,000+<br>£1,000+      | 10.57%<br>9.75%<br>9.20%<br>8.88%           | 11.10%<br>10.10%<br>9.60%<br>9.25% |                                  |
| OVERSEAS 3 MONTH CAPITAL Also applies to International and First Class Bond                 | £25,000+<br>£10,000+<br>£5,000+<br>£500+<br>£1+ | 11.10%<br>10.10%<br>9.60%<br>8.75%<br>5.50% |                                    |                                  |
| OVERSEAS PRIME ACCESS   | £25,000+<br>£10,000+<br>£5,000+<br>£500+<br>£1+ | 10.00%<br>9.70%<br>9.25%<br>8.75%<br>5.50%  |                                    |                                  |



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## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Hake stays a step ahead

CARR Kitcat & Aitken was delighted to have lured the two-man building analysts' team away from Greig Middleton, the regional stockbroker. The company was especially happy because Lawrence Amboldt and Leslie Kent, who left Middleton last week and start at Carr Kitcat & Aitken next month, would be reunited with Mark Hake, the present building analyst, who worked with the two at Morgan Grenfell and followed them to CIBC Securities. Unfortunately, Hake has other ideas. To Carr's horror, he has announced that he is to join Nikko Securities, the third biggest Japanese securities house, hence keeping one step ahead of his former colleagues. He starts on Monday.

### Options open

CAMERON Boyle, former director of County NatWest WoodMac has turned up at

Brabant Resources after a six-month break from the City. He is, it is believed, unlikely to find his new non-executive role enough to keep him busy. Boyle, aged 53, who was laid off by County last Christmas after helping bring Brabant to the USM in October, is hungry for new challenges. Boyle, who began his City life as a salesman with De Zoete & Bevan in the Sixties, and went on to run WoodMac's American operations, says: "I am looking at a number of options."

### Bikuben anthem

CALLERS to the London office of Bikuben, the Danish financial house, are queuing up to be placed on hold. For after tiring of the usual electronic Greenleaves, beloved of many British companies, the bank has tracked down the original version of *Wonderful Copenhagen* sung by Danny Kaye. James Cox, head of market-making, who dreamed up the idea, with the blessing of his superiors in Denmark, says: "We thought it would

cheer people up. They thought it was interesting."

### Delegate shopped

ANYONE who has had to sit through a boring conference will sympathise with Antonio Rogério Magri, Brazil's labour minister, who was spotted shopping for jewellery in Geneva when he should have been attending the annual meeting of the International Labour Organisation. Magri, a former electricity worker and union leader, was panned by critics at home but forgiven by Fernando Collor de Mello, his country's youthful president, who is standing by him. "We are humans," says the president graciously. "No-one should be made to sacrifice for an error, if in it there was no malice or dishonesty."

### Taxi prank

TWO Japanese business executives arriving at Heathrow decided to travel to the City by taxi. The taxi-driver, with a twinkle in his eye, told them

they had a choice of first or second class. If they travelled first class, they could sit on the big seat at the back, and pay double on the meter. If they chose second class, they had to sit on the jump seats, facing backwards, and pay the regular fare. They went second class.

### Gifts fit for King

LORD King of Warrumbury was in Renfrew, Scotland, this week for the centenary celebrations of Babcock International Group, of which he is chairman. He left clutching an engraving of the original Babcock prospectus under one arm and a bronze statue under the other. Andreas Schluter of Deutsche Babcock, a former associate company, reminded him of the two-tier board system favoured in Germany - a supervisory one and an executive one. Lord King says: "I am quite happy with such a system, as long as they do not introduce it in Britain."

JON ASHWORTH



Privatisation programme involves 50 key firms

# Czechs plan \$4.5bn sell-off

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU, EUROPEAN BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

PRIVATISATION in Czechoslovakia is gaining momentum with the launch of a \$4.5 billion privatisation plan by the Czech republic, announced in London yesterday.

The programme involves the privatisation of 50 key industrial companies, including Skoda Pisen, the power generator, and Tatra, the truck maker, raising a total of \$1.5 billion. The Czech national government hopes to raise a further \$3 billion next year.

The plan underlines the different approaches of the Czech national and federal governments, whose finance minister, Vaclav Klaus, has spearheaded a more radical privatisation scheme, including the wholesale transfer of state assets to the public via investment vouchers, instead of asset sales to foreigners. The size of the Czech national privatisation programme exceeds previous estimates and amounts to a challenge to Mr Klaus's voucher scheme. Under Czechoslovak law, privatisation is the prerogative of the two republics, while the federal government's role is limited to framework legislation.

Jan Vrba, the Czech industry minister, said vouchers would only play a subordinate role in the republic.

"In the case of Skoda Pisen, a 100 per cent voucher privatisation would lead to bankruptcy. What we need to find is a foreign partner. For us, privatisation is not a goal in itself. It is just the means to revitalise our companies."

This view stands in stark contrast to that of Mr Klaus, who places stronger emphasis on private ownership than perceived economic efficiency.

Mr Vrba said the government was holding talks with several leading power equipment manufacturers over the Skoda Pisen privatisation,



Vaclav Klaus: challenge including Siemens, Westinghouse and ABB.

Mr Vrba said his government was trying to lure more than just companies into the country. "We will of course monitor the direction the capital comes from and we will try to maintain the balance of western investors. We will of course encourage British investors but my friends at Bankers Trust try to explain to me that British investors are active, but I can't see any of that in Czechoslovakia."

He said Western lethargy could be overcome if large companies sent out signals, as Volkswagen did through its takeover of the Skoda car manufacturer last year.

The privatisation approach of the Czech government mirrors that of the Treuhänder, the eastern German privatisation agency. Like the Treuhänder, the Czech government is dividing the industrial sector under its auspices, comprising 1,450 companies, into three categories: ones that can be sold off immediately; those needing restructuring; and those that will go bankrupt.

He said Czech privatisation would be smoother than the eastern German and would lead to less unemployment because Czechoslovakia had a more realistic exchange rate.

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## Specialist hire helps Salvesen rise to £66.6m

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

STRONG results from Christian Salvesen's specialist hire business helped increase the distribution group's profits for the year to end March despite the slowdown in the retail sector. Salvesen's main customer group, extraordinary item made up of three elements. Salvesen withdrew from the truck hire business in Britain and more than 90 per cent of its distribution business comes from long-term contracts with large retail groups such as Marks and Spencer and Asda. The German distribution operation was scaled down and there was a write-off against a Unilever contract.

The distribution business made a trading profit of £27.5 million, no change on last year. The volume of business with Marks and Spencer expanded with Salvesen operating a £15 million regional distribution centre in Sheffield for M&S.

The manufacturing division saw profits fall by £2 million to £18.2 million.

Salvesen shares rose 7p to 209p.

Pre-tax profits rose 7.2 per cent to £66.6 million on sales up 11 per cent at £423 million. Earnings per share rose 10.7 per cent to 16.6p and the final dividend is 3.85p making 6.6p for the year, an increase of 10 per cent. The fluctuations in the dollar exchange rate cost the group £1.1 million in pre-tax profits.

Specialist hire, including Aggreko, Salvesen's business which makes and hires out power generators in Europe, America and the Far East, saw profits rise from £15.8 million to £21.8 million.

There was a £13.3 million

| FT-SE 100 VOLUMES |          |              |          |
|-------------------|----------|--------------|----------|
| Vol '000          | Vol '000 | Vol '000     | Vol '000 |
| Abbey Nat         | 1,329    | Cadbury      | 1,496    |
| ABN-Lloyds        | 277      | CU           | 2,088    |
| Anglo             | 1,594    | Courtauld    | 843      |
| ASDA              | 2,731    | Emirates     | 267      |
| ASDA              | 1,152    | Euromoney    | 160      |
| Avon              | 2,572    | Flora        | 1,059    |
| Avon              | 1,583    | Forre        | 732      |
| BAA               | 288      | Gen Acc      | 1,133    |
| BET               | 789      | GEC          | 3,842    |
| BTR               | 1,032    | Glen         | 4,478    |
| BAT               | 1,135    | Grand Met    | 985      |
| Barrays           | 2,187    | GUS 'A'      | 253      |
| Bass              | 796      | GRI          | 1,059    |
| BK                | 887      | Gulfstream   | 1,154    |
| Blue Circle       | 272      | Hamm 'A'     | 1,684    |
| BSC               | 583      | Hamm 'B'     | 573      |
| Boots             | 3,290    | Hawker       | 418      |
| Br Aero           | 3,198    | Hilldown     | 1,500    |
| Br Airways        | 1,241    | ICI          | 752      |
| Br Geo            | 5,254    | Kingfisher   | 598      |
| Br Petrol         | 4,769    | Leam         | 599      |
| Br Steel          | 2,718    | Ladbrokes    | 1,278    |
| Br Telecom        | 6,480    | Land Sec     | 1,030    |
| BSW               | 4,431    | LAG          | 237      |
|                   |          | Lloyds       | 2,443    |
|                   |          | Lombard      | 878      |
|                   |          | Lucas        | 873      |
|                   |          | M&S          | 5,753    |
|                   |          | Macmillan    | 179      |
|                   |          | MEPC         | 321      |
|                   |          | Medley       | 1,830    |
|                   |          | Nail Power   | 4,131    |
|                   |          | Nat West     | 3,148    |
|                   |          | N W Water    | 1,220    |
|                   |          | Parsons      | 1,088    |
|                   |          | Pickering    | 2,775    |
|                   |          | PowerGen     | 3,131    |
|                   |          | Prudential   | 1,680    |
|                   |          | Racal        | 5,771    |
|                   |          | Rix Hovis    | 833      |
|                   |          | Rothmans     | 1,082    |
|                   |          | S&P          | 1,082    |
|                   |          | Shell        | 3,060    |
|                   |          | Smith & N    | 1,204    |
|                   |          | S&P          | 1,158    |
|                   |          | Sun Alliance | 88       |
|                   |          | Tarmac       | 4,882    |
|                   |          | Tate Lyle    | 1,344    |
|                   |          | TSB          | 2,336    |
|                   |          | Tesco        | 3,091    |
|                   |          | Thames W     | 1,345    |
|                   |          | Thorn EMI    | 717      |
|                   |          | Travellers   | 3,397    |
|                   |          | Unilever     | 2,585    |
|                   |          | United Life  | 1,856    |
|                   |          | Wellcome     | 1,146    |
|                   |          | Whitbread    | 944      |
|                   |          | Williams     | 1,575    |
|                   |          | Wills        | 834      |

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Mærsk Olie og Gas AS is a company in the A.P. Møller Group acting as exploration, development and production operator for Danish Undergrunds Consortium (DUC). DUC has considerable acreage in the Danish North Sea with an average daily production of approximately 120,000 BOPD and 300 M Mcf/d.

### Senior Geophysicist/Geophysicist Copenhagen

Mærsk Olie og Gas AS is seeking a geophysicist at a senior level to work in the Company's headquarters in Copenhagen.

Mærsk Olie og Gas AS is expanding into international exploration in the Far East, Africa and America, and the successful candidate would become involved in seismic interpretation and acreage evaluations in Denmark and overseas.

In Denmark an intensive 2D and 3D seismic campaign is ongoing in order to delineate existing and future fields and to define potential exploration targets. Work stations and advanced geophysical software are available.

Preference will be given to the candidate with the following qualifications:

- A minimum of five years' industry experience, primarily in seismic interpretation
- Good working knowledge of acquisition and processing techniques
- Experience with work station interpretation and advanced seismic stratigraphic interpretation techniques.

For further information call senior geophysicist Joan Megson, phone 45 31 18 40 44.

Applicants are asked to send a full C.V. to the Personnel Department at:

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Applicants must be nationals of an EC country or of an African, Caribbean or Pacific country, and have English as their mother-tongue. They must possess one or more GCE 'A' levels (or equivalent) in relevant subjects - 5 years' professional experience - a very good knowledge of French - excellent keyboard and word processing skills - administrative skills - initiative, and must be prepared to work in a team. Experience of editorial work or in the printing and publishing industry would be an asset.

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  - attitudine a rapporti interpersonali, serietà, riservatezza.
- I contenuti della mansione sono in grado di soddisfare le aspettative professionali delle persone più qualificate e una ottima occasione del personale di poterla di assicurare un costante e stimolante ambiente di lavoro.
- Si prega di telefonare al n. 02/582-2-6202339 entro una settimana dall'uscita dell'inserzione, al prego di inviare curriculum tramite fax 02/582-2-6572254 - Selezione del Personale - indicando il recapito telefonico.
- Heinz Italia S.p.A., Selezione del Personale, C.so Garibaldi, 67/68, 20121 MILANO - ITALIA

## ZIMBABWE

### ROAD REHABILITATION CONTRACT PROJECT MANAGER/ENGINEER/SITE AGENT

Zimbabwe Construction Company about to engage on the rehabilitation of 20kms of the Harare-Mutare Road in Zimbabwe with a value of approx. US\$8.0m wishes to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced person to provide hands-on control of the project.

The contract, with a 15-month duration, is due to commence in August 1991 and the appointed incumbent should be available for employment no later than the 30th September 1991 and preferably earlier. Applications in writing should be addressed to the undersigned as urgently as possible, giving full C.V. and at least three contactable references.

Whilst previous experience in Central and Southern Africa would be an advantage, this is not essential. Single and married applicants will be given equal consideration. The employment package offered will be competitive in international terms and will include air fares, accommodation, school fees and the usual expatriate benefits applicable in Zimbabwe. Reply to:

W.J. Templeton  
36 Western Road  
Cheltenham  
Gloucestershire  
GL50 3RH

### THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES Mona, Jamaica

### VACANT CHAIRS AT THE MONA CAMPUS

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill the following vacant chairs:

#### CHAIR IN ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

Candidates are expected to have a proven record or achievement in the areas of Natural Products Chemistry and Medicinal Chemistry. The Professor is expected to contribute significantly to the development of research in Organic Chemistry in the Department.

#### CHAIR IN PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

The successful applicant will be expected to provide leadership in developing research programmes, preferably of an applied nature, as well as the teaching programmes at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

#### CHAIR IN MICROBIOLOGY

The successful applicant will be expected to give leadership in the teaching and research activities of the Department of Microbiology, which prepares students for the MB BS degree of the University of the West Indies, and to organise postgraduate programmes in Microbiology.

TOTAL SALARY PACKAGE w/ 1/8/91 in the range J\$358,313-J\$417,449. Includes basic salary in the range J\$227,853-J\$274,581 per annum; Entertainment allowance of J\$24,105 per annum; Transport allowance of J\$38,000 per annum; Unfurnished accommodation at a rental of J\$360 per annum or housing allowance of 20% of pensionable salary plus 10% Mona housing allowance. In addition, annual Study and Travel Grant scheme which provides J\$8,913 for self, J\$2,971 for spouse and J\$991 each for up to 3 children. Book Grant of up to J\$4,905 per annum (J\$5,518 in 1992/3) with 33 1/3% being tied to purchase at the University Bookshop. Subsidised Health Scheme. UWI contribution of 10% of pensionable salary to Superannuation Scheme. Provision for up to five full economy class passages plus baggage allowance up to US\$1,200 on appointment and normal termination. Special allowance up to US\$400 for shipment of academic books and teaching/research equipment on appointment.

Detailed applications (three copies) giving full particulars of qualifications and experience, date of birth, marital status, and names and addresses of three referees should be sent as soon as possible, but no later than 10 June 1991 to the University Registrar, Attention: Assistant Registrar (Centre), University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica. Further particulars of the post are available from the same source or from the Appointments Officer, Association of Commonwealth Universities, 28 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF, UK, to whom candidates in the UK should also send one copy of their applications. In order to expedite the selection procedure, applicants are advised to ask their referees to send confidential reports direct to the University without writing to be contacted. (WBS93)A

### The International Monetary Fund has career openings at its Washington Headquarters for an

### ARABIC INTERPRETER-TRANSLATOR and an ARABIC TRANSLATOR

For the Interpreter-Translator position, candidates must be conference interpreters who are able to interpret, and also to translate, from English into Arabic and from Arabic into English. They must have Arabic as their mother tongue and possess a thorough command of written and spoken English. Candidates must have a university degree, or equivalent, and professional experience in conference interpretation and translation. Additional academic or professional qualifications in economics and in other languages such as French would be highly desirable. Candidates must be capable of working in an increasingly automated environment using networked terminals for translations. Translation work will account for a major share of the duties in the Fund; accordingly, qualified candidates will be required to take a translation test as well as an interpretation test into Arabic and into English.

For the translator position, candidates must be professional translators who are able to translate from English into Arabic and from Arabic into English. They must have Arabic as their mother tongue and possess a thorough command of written English. Candidates must have a university degree, or equivalent, preferably in Economics or Law and professional experience in the translation of economic texts. Proficiency in other languages would be highly desirable. Candidates must be capable of working in an automated environment using networked terminals for translation. Qualified candidates will be required to take a translation test into Arabic and into English.

Attractive salary and benefits package available. Candidates should send a copy of their curriculum vitae before July 15, 1991 to:-

Luis A. Tassara  
Senior Personnel Officer  
Recruitment Division  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20431, U.S.A.

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| No. | Company            | Group           | Gain or Loss |
|-----|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1   | Waddington (J)     | Paper/Print/Adv |              |
| 2   | Cap & Comics       | Property        |              |
| 3   | Remolki            | Chemicals/Plas  |              |
| 4   | TSB                | Bank/Discount   |              |
| 5   | Whitson            | Industrial A-D  |              |
| 6   | Boots              | Industrial A-D  |              |
| 7   | Aut New Z          | Bank/Discount   |              |
| 8   | Swire Pacific A    | Industrial S-Z  |              |
| 9   | Logica             | Electronics     |              |
| 10  | Allied Colloids    | Chemicals/Plas  |              |
| 11  | Wellcome           | Industrial S-Z  |              |
| 12  | Sainsbury J        | Food            |              |
| 13  | Pendragon          | Motor/Aircraft  |              |
| 14  | Bovril             | Industrial A-D  |              |
| 15  | Kwik Save          | Food            |              |
| 16  | Acet Group         | Electronics     |              |
| 17  | Central TV         | Leisure         |              |
| 18  | Reston             | Industrial L-R  |              |
| 19  | BTR                | Industrial A-D  |              |
| 20  | Jacobs (J)         | Transport       |              |
| 21  | Island Foods       | Food            |              |
| 22  | Macarthy           | Industrial L-R  |              |
| 23  | Glynwed            | Industrial E-K  |              |
| 24  | MB-Candell         | Industrial L-R  |              |
| 25  | Regalia            | Property        |              |
| 26  | Arwoods            | Building/Roads  |              |
| 27  | Venue Theory       | Industrial S-Z  |              |
| 28  | Amesbury           | Chemicals/Plas  |              |
| 29  | Vaux Group         | Property        |              |
| 30  | Under Walker       | Paper/Print/Adv |              |
| 31  | Lex Service        | Motor/Aircraft  |              |
| 32  | Gray Elect         | Electronics     |              |
| 33  | Proving            | Building/Roads  |              |
| 34  | Welsh Water        | Water           |              |
| 35  | Southend Prop      | Property        |              |
| 36  | Jardine Math       | Industrial E-K  |              |
| 37  | SD-Scoot           | Electronics     |              |
| 38  | IMI                | Industrial E-K  |              |
| 39  | Barton             | Dairy/Stores    |              |
| 40  | Medic Food         | Food            |              |
| 41  | Midland Comm       | Newspaper/Pub   |              |
| 42  | Sci TV             | Industrial S-Z  |              |
| 43  | VSEL               | Industrial S-Z  |              |
| 44  | Wholesale Fittings | Electronics     |              |

Please take into account any minus signs

| Weekly Dividend  |     |     |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in tomorrow's newspaper. |     |     |     |     |     |
| Mon  | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|  |     |     |     |     |     |

Two readers shared the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. Mrs Gillian Farrant, of Abingdon, Oxfordshire, and Mrs Catherine Alsford, of Bournemouth, each receive £1,000.

### BRITISH FUNDS

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### SHORTS (Under Five Years)

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### UNDATED

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### INDEX-LINKED

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Shares continue to fall

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began June 3. Dealings end today. Settlement day June 17. Settlement day June 24.  
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### BREWERIES

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### BUILDING, ROADS

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### DRAPERY, STORES

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### ELECTRICALS

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### FINANCE, LAND

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### FINANCIAL TRUSTS

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### FOODS

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### ELECTRICITY

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### FINANCE, LAND

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### FINANCIAL TRUSTS

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### FOODS

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### HOTELS, CATERERS

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### INDUSTRIALS A-D

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### S-Z

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### INSURANCE

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### LEISURE

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### MINING

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### TOBACCO

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### TRANSPORT

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### WATER

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### OILS, GAS

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

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| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### PROPERTY

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### SHOES, LEATHER

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### TEXTILES

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### TOBACCO

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### TRANSPORT

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### WATER

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |

### OILS, GAS

| 1991 | High | Low  | Close | Gain | Loss |
|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000  | 0    | 0    |



## UNLISTED SECURITIES

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 90.1 (day's range 90.0-90.2)

| Exchange index compared with 1885 was down at 90.1 (day's range 90.0-90.2). |               |               |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|---|---------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES   |               |               |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Rate fixed for June 13  |               |               |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|   | Range         | Close         | 1 month   | 3 month   | 6 month   | 9 month   | 12 month  | 15 month  | 18 month  |
| New York  | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| London  | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Paris   | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Frankfurt   | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Amsterdam   | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Bombay  | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Calcutta  | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Rangoon   | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Singapore   | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Manila  | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Cebu  | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Yokohama  | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Osaka   | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Kobe  | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Shanghai  | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Hong Kong   | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Lyons   | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Brussels  | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Geneva  | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Basle   | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Frankfurt   | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Amsterdam   | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Bombay  | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Calcutta  | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.70 |
| Rangoon   | 1.8300-1.8450 | 1.8385-1.8395 | 0.70-0.80 | 1.07-1.15 | 1.37-1.50 | 1.67-1.80 | 1.97-2.10 | 2.27-2.40 | 2.57-2.   |







**"It looks as though the wall is the only place I'll be going this year"**

That means balancing the need to keep up with all the latest developments without spreading the expertise too thinly over too wide a range of products. Mr. Arnold says: "We certainly review all the products around and we switch the items in our 'toolkit' frequently. We have a very solid team and each member keeps on top of his or her own area."

EDITED BY DEREK HARRIS

100





Fast machines, but slow on delivery: the £61,950 BMW 850i, top speed 155mph, favoured by Raymond Blanc (inset), and the £74,586 Ferrari 348, top speed 170mph

## My dashing pièce de résistance

For most motorists the relative qualities of cars that cost £60,000 and more are academic. Drivers confined to the ranks of Cavaliers and Sierras will wonder what possible difference there can be in models that seem to have everything.

However, for Raymond Blanc, one of Britain's leading French chefs, and about 750 other motorists, the differences are enormous. Mr Blanc runs one of the world's finest restaurants deep in rural Oxfordshire and is a connoisseur of fine cars. That is why he was happy this week to allow his Le Manoir aux Quat' Saisons hotel at Great Milton to be used as a test driving centre for Ferraris, imported into Britain by Maranello Concessionaires. Mr Blanc's interest was more than curiosity, for

Why are the rich prepared to spend a fortune and wait up to four years for a supercar? Kevin Eason asked car enthusiast and master chef Raymond Blanc and took a test drive to find out for himself

he is an enthusiastic owner of the latest supercar to reach Britain, the £61,950 BMW 850i.

The 850i and the Ferrari range have escaped the worst of the recession. The wait to buy the BMW is 18 months and for most Ferraris about four years. A 10 per cent deposit must be paid to get on the list.

Only 350 people will take delivery of a new Ferrari this year and about 400 will get the BMW. Drivers such as Mr Blanc can not only afford an expensive car, but also understand the intimate differences between models that high-

light the qualities of a true supercar.

As I pulled away from his hotel for my first time at the wheel of a Ferrari 348, priced at £74,586, I understood fully the drawing power of the exotic Italian car.

The Ferrari's exterior lines are among the most dramatic on the road, from the sharply drooping nose to the fat exterior. The 3.4-litre V8 engine, mounted behind the passenger cabin, growls and roars with every gear change.

The best of the Ferrari is felt at the top of the rev counter and the maximum 300 brake horse power

comes at 7,200 rpm. The car can accelerate from 0 to 62mph in 5.6 seconds and achieve a top speed of more than 170mph.

However, the Ferrari is spartan. Leather surroundings there may be, but the dashboard switches and dials could have come from a cheap and cheerful saloon and there is no pandering to the comfort of driver and passenger. Just squeeze into the narrow cabin and hang on.

The BMW 850i is a complete contrast. Mr Blanc says its luxurious and spacious cabin area is one of the reasons he chose BMW's

most ambitious offering instead of competitors such as the Ferrari. He says: "I have driven Ferraris and find they are a wonderful car for the driver. The BMW is exciting, yet is wonderfully comfortable for a long drive."

BMW has loaded its car with electronic gadgets for comfort and safety. From windows that electronically seal themselves when the doors are closed to a superb stereo with CD player, the 850i is built for business cruising as much as pure speed. Mr Blanc says the power from the 5-litre V12 is impressive. The car goes from 0 to 60mph in 6.8 seconds and has a top speed of 155mph.

"I chose the BMW because it has the capabilities of other cars but in a gentler way," Mr Blanc says. "The Ferraris are gorgeous, but I love my BMW."

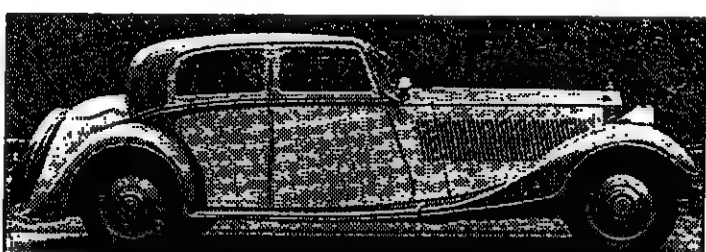
The long, rounded bonnet speaks volumes for the classic elegance of the golden age of Rolls-Royce. The Phantom II Continental sports saloon (pictured right) will be one of the stars of the annual rally of Rolls-Royce and Bentley enthusiasts this weekend, when 1 per cent of all the cars made by the company will gather at Castle Ashby, near Northampton.

But this car almost did not survive to be admired because it was discovered bricked up in an underground warehouse where it had been rotting away for nearly ten years.

It was bought for £10, plus £25 for a new set of tyres, but went unrestored for another decade. Bob Roberts, the founder of the

## Refusing to give up the ghost

This Rolls-Royce sold for £10 after being hidden for a decade. Now it could fetch £75,000



Midland Motor Museum at Bridgnorth in Shropshire, acquired the model in 1975. Recently it has been in a private collection, which has decided to sell it.

Similar stories will probably be

repeated many times over by owners attending this weekend's rally, when the Phantom, made in 1933 and expected to fetch up to £75,000, is auctioned by Sotheby's.

Rolls-Royces and Bentleys attract remarkable devotion from classic car enthusiasts, which probably accounts for the long life of the Crewe-made cars. More than 100,000 Rolls-Royces and Bentleys have been

made, and 60 per cent of them are thought to be still in existence, most in full working order. Most of the rest were destroyed in the war.

At Castle Ashby on Sunday, 1,000 cars will be on show, from the oldest models to the latest Silver Spirits and Silver Spurs. Attention will be focused on the distinctively styled models from the early age of motoring, starting with the 1907 Silver Ghost, said to be the most valuable car in the world. Worth more than £12 million, it is owned by Rolls-Royce.

That was one of the cars which began the legend of the highest quality of British workmanship and traditions which live on today throughout the world, despite the intrusion of high technology.

## Vauxhall's set menu

VAUXHALL has announced changes to its dealer network to reduce maintenance and servicing prices. The company is offering a summer check for £19.95, including brakes, steering, suspension, tyres, exhaust and battery. The offer comes as Vauxhall's Master-Fit, a drive-in, while-you-wait service, takes off. The company, like Ford, wants to be able to rival drive-in garages with menu-pricing and fast-fit repairs on the spot.

## Cleaner Peugeots

PEUGEOT is now including catalytic converters on its 309 range. The first models with a catalyst, which cuts 90 per cent of toxic exhaust emissions, are the 1.1-litre Style, 1.4-litre GL and GLX, and 1.6-litre GR models.

## Tax break

INDIRECT taxes on new cars in France are falling, in contrast to the UK, where VAT has been increased from 15 to 17.5 per cent on top of existing 10 per cent car tax. Total French car taxes have fallen from 33 per cent to 22 per cent and will go down to 18.6 per cent from January 1993.

## Lancia prices up

PRICES of Lancia Dedra and Thema cars have gone up by 1.9 per cent, although the cost of buying models from the Y10 and Delta range remains unchanged. The Lancia range now stretches from the 1-litre Fire Y10 at £6,125 to the 3-litre 8.32 by Ferrari at £44,139.

## Seat prices down

SEAT, the Spanish manufacturer owned by Volkswagen, says its Ibiza New Look model is priced £400 below the model it replaces. All Seat cars come with 12 months' free AA membership and road rescue package. The Ibiza base model car, the 900 Special, is now £5,444.

## French fury

THE sore spot of Jacques Calvet, chairman of the PSA Group, which owns Peugeot and Citroën, is the Japanese. He has complained long and loud over the arrival of Nissan, Toyota and Honda to manufacture in Britain and now says he may pull out of research projects, previously signed up with Renault, because of its involvement with Volvo, which is planning a joint venture with Mitsubishi.

## Sweden's new baby

A NEW Volvo is about to come on the market. The Swedish company announced the arrival of the 8-series when it unveiled the 850GLT this week. It has a transversely-mounted 2.5-litre, 20 valve engine and should be available in the UK next year.

## Budget Sierras

FORD has launched a budget-priced series of Sierra models, known as the Chausseur range. The five-door hatchback, four-door saloon and five-door estate are priced at £12,250 and have the same 1.8-litre engine. Each model gets an anti-theft alarm and tilt and slide sunroof. The estate car also has an integral roof rack.

## Ferry expensive

TAKING the ferry over to France for a sprint around the hypermarkets is not only fun but cost effective... unless you have an accident. The Automobile Assoc-



iation says it is important to take out insurance cover for the other side of the English Channel, even for a day trip. The AA offers 24-hour breakdown and recovery for £8.50 and, for foot passengers, a 95p policy covering medical and repatriation costs.

## Radio switch

TOYOTA is introducing radio data system (RDS) radios to its entire car range, to help buyers receive the increasing amount of traffic information. RDS has two benefits: it automatically locks on to a radio station's strongest frequency and it can also be interrupted to accept traffic warning signals from local BBC stations on the FM frequency.

## Cheap estate

SKODA, the Czechoslovakian maker with a reputation for low-budget cars, is producing an estate model for £6,498. The car is powered by the company's 1.3-litre engine and offers 47.5 cubic feet of space with the rear seats folded down.

# CAR BUYERS GUIDE

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2001 SE F Reg. White, excellent condition £12,250

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## RYA acts to stem rising fees

THE Royal Yachting Association (RYA) yesterday launched a national campaign calling on boat owners to band together and fight the increases in marina and harbour fees that have driven yachtsmen away from the sport (Barry Pickthall writes).

The association has set up a berth-holders and mooring facilities committee to monitor the pricing of marina berths, with a view to taking direct action on behalf of all the 45,000 marina berth-holders in Britain.

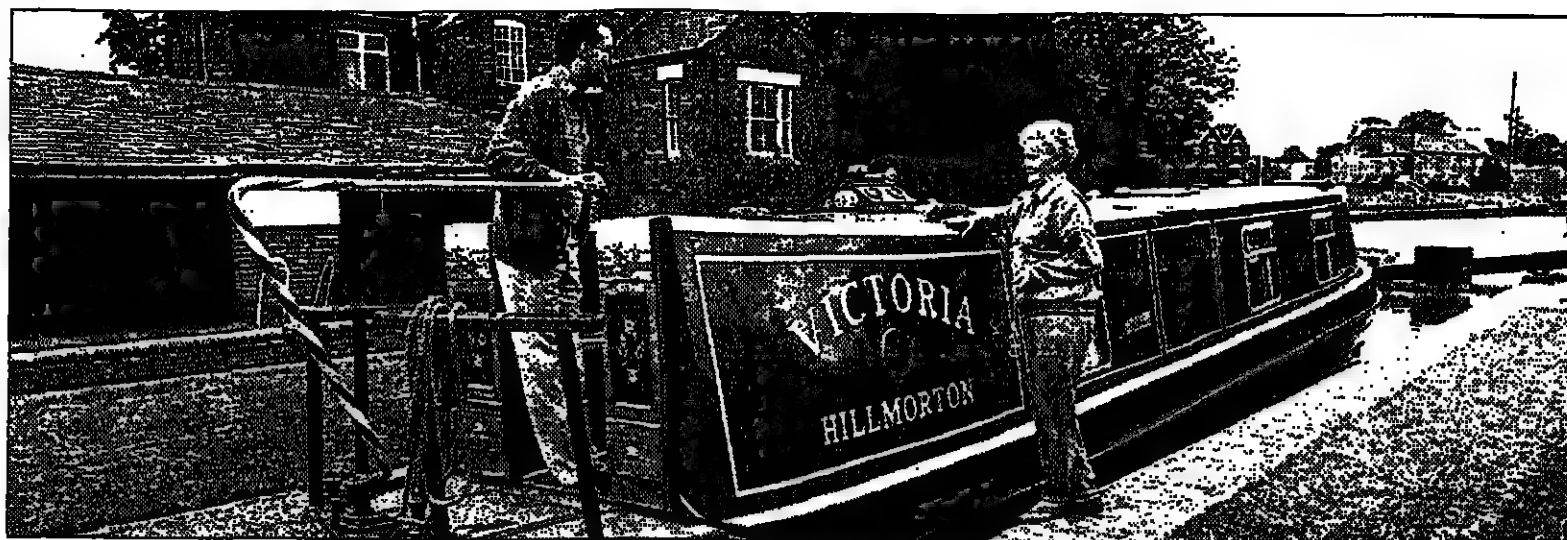
"Marina fees have doubled during the last three years, fuelled by problems of supply and demand," Edmund Wheeler, the RYA's barrister, said. The RYA has appointed a special co-ordinator and set up a telephone hotline (082-572 2138) to offer individual advice and encourage marina users to set up their own berth-holder associations to negotiate directly with operators.

"We believe that if berth-holders organise themselves they can successfully control these increases. If the users are not happy with the annual increases levied by the marina companies, they will have our support to set their own level, and if necessary the RYA will hold the balance in a special account until negotiations are resolved," Wheeler said.

The RYA is also looking to expand the sport away from the over-crowded south coast and encourage development of facilities in the Bristol Channel and Welsh coast. It believes there is scope to develop existing harbours at Portland, Barry, Swansea and Holyhead.

Barry Pickthall celebrates the renaissance of Britain's much-maligned canal system

## Discovering luxury by escaping inland



Never mind the width, feel the quality: the new breed of narrowboat offers all the comforts of home for both the owner and holiday-maker

Enthusiasts for Britain's inland waterways have long been perceived as the poor relations in boating circles. Decayed locks, collapsing towpaths, silted rivers and canals, together with the utilitarian standards set by hire craft fleets, have not helped the picture.

It is a perception greatly misplaced. Two weeks spent exploring the Grand Union, Oxford and Llangollen canals have uncovered a wealth of interest, participation, and a rebuilding programme that many hard-pressed coastal sailors, facing high mooring charges, will envy.

Our inland waterways are enjoying a renaissance that continues undaunted through the recession. British Waterways alone is spending £60 million this year on reconstruction work, and voluntary groups are beavering away across the country restoring disused canals to their former glory. Quality and tradition have suddenly become key words.

Tony Croxhall and his wife have just taken delivery of a 62ft traditional narrowboat built by Colecraft at Bramston Marina. After a lifetime of coastal cruising, they intend to enjoy their retirement exploring Britain's 2,000-mile man-made artery system.

"We began our sailing with a converted lifeboat based at Southend-on-Sea and graduated to owning Moody and Westerly yachts. But we were never in command of the conditions. So often we would set out for France only to find a perfect forecast turn into a Force 6 gale. On the canals you remain in control whatever the weather," he says.

Their boat has central heating, shower and bath, a full kitchen, and all the comforts of home. The captain's cabin, fitted out to replicate the living quarters of a working

barge, the highly polished engine and brass work, and canal paintings decorating doorways and cabin sides, provide the traditional touches that make each boat unique. Another enthusiast is Brian Saunders. A Midlands-based entrepreneur, the canals have been his escape route for the past 20 years. He, too, has a highly personalised 60ft narrowboat, and has launched a flotilla of luxury hire boats.

His first Victoria class 42ft narrowboat was exhibited at the London and Birmingham boat shows, and a 62ft Albert

class boat is due to be launched next week. Both have the facilities of a five-star hotel suite — only without room service.

The emphasis is on comfort, not cramming as many berths as possible into the available space. Victoria is a 2 + 2 berth design with saloon seating that converts into an occasional bed. Albert has two double cabins and the same pull-out saloon facilities.

Both boats boast a superb galley that includes a household sized fridge, cooker and microwave oven. They are

also equipped with a cell-phone, CD player, and even a jacuzzi. The company also provides a limousine service for holiday-makers to and from Rugby railway station and local airports.

The greatest attraction for first-timers to the canals, however, is that no previous boating experience is necessary. In common with other hire fleets, Saunders's company, Regency Holidays Afloat, provides experienced crews with an hour-long lesson taking you through a series of locks close to their

Hillmorton base. From there, holiday-makers can venture through the one-and-a-half mile long Braunston tunnel to visit the waterways museum at Stoke Bruerne, take in Oxford or Stratford-upon-Avon, or cruise the circular Warwickshire and Leicestershire rings.

Prices for Victoria range from £740 to £1,220 per week, including VAT, and £830 to £1,375 for the Albert. Further details from Regency Holidays Afloat, Theatre One, Ford Street, Coventry CV1 5FN.

## QUAY NOTES

### A hero's return

JOSH Hall, the British solo yachtsman who overcame countless Southern Ocean knockdowns, a dislocated knee and a mountain of debts to complete the 27,000-mile BOC round-the-world race last winter, returns to a hero's welcome in his native Ipswich next weekend.

Hall, whose regular dispatches in *The Times* during the race provided a unique insight into the frightening trials and sacrifices, but immeasurable pleasure, gained from confronting and overcoming the worst that the weather gods can throw at you, returns penniless but unbowed by the experience.

"It is fantastic just to have finished," he said. "Now I want to build a 60-footer and win the next race outright."

A 200-strong fleet is expected to greet Hall and his 50ft yacht, *New Spirit* of Ipswich, when he arrives off Harwich early on June 23. The boat will escort him up the River Orwell to a quayside reception staged by the mayor of Ipswich at 10.30am.

### Club reopens

THE Little Ship Club has made a welcome return to its old riverside City site at Bell Wharf Lane, London, after closing its doors for redevelopment five years ago. During the early stages of reconstruction, the London Museum combed the site for historic artefacts, some of which are now on permanent display in the club. The present membership stands at 1,600, but the improved facilities will allow numbers to increase by a further 400.

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**The Yacht Club**  
Every great metropolis has its river - from the Hudson in New York, to the Seine in Paris. However, London has never really appreciated its greatest asset... until now.  
From the 1st June 1991, the Thames will be home to London's newest venue for the rich and famous, The Yacht Club. Built originally in 1927, this luxury yacht has been completely restored to its former elegance, and is now moored permanently in the heart of the West End, at Temple Pier - soon to play a prominent part in London's rich and varied nightlife.  
As a concept The Yacht Club is uniquely different amongst membership clubs. Apart from its splendid location and ambience, it offers a superb gourmet cuisine, supplemented by the very special creations of invited guest chefs, in a most elegant restaurant with magnificent views across the river.  
After dinner, members and their guests can dance the night away on the dance deck to music played by our resident DJ, or relax over drinks in the art nouveau cocktail lounge... and to complete the perfect night, adjourn to the upper deck marquee for breakfast at dawn.  
Only 750 Founder Memberships are available, at £250.00 per annum, with no increase in fees for the next five years. Once these are filled, new Memberships will be at £500.00 per annum (increasing annually), and will only be accepted if nominated by a founder member.  
Please complete in CAPITALS & RETURN TO THE SECRETARY, THE YACHT CLUB, ST. KATHARINE, TEMPLE PIER, VICTORIA EMBANKMENT, LONDON WC2R 2PH. TEL: 071-579 8088 FAX: 071-579 8185  
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I hereby apply for membership of THE YACHT CLUB, London, and I agree to comply with the rules and related bye-laws.  
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ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
POST CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ TEL NO \_\_\_\_\_  
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SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
**CREDIT CARD DETAILS**  
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Please charge annually my card account with the Founder Membership fee to The Yacht Club, London, of £250. (until cancelled in writing) the first payment to be on: \_\_\_\_\_  
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WAVE in NAGANO, "The Let's Join Hands to Bring the Olympic Winter Games to Nagano Executive Committee," is a private organization in which 220 bodies in Nagano Pref. participate to launch a drive to bring the 1998 Olympic Winter Games to Nagano. Since its establishment in 1987, the Executive Committee has promoted the Nagano Olympics at sites for international winter sports tournaments, such as the skiing and skating world cups etc. as well as the production of an attractive calendar with pictures drawn by children.











# Former Wimbledon champion continues his successful rehabilitation with a win at Queen's Club

## Cash tames hurricane conditions

By ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

PAT Cash said he did not mind his opponent was in the fourth round of the Stella Artois tournament today. "It could be my grandmother or Stefan Edberg out there," he said, "after an easy win over Todd Woodbridge yesterday. It will be Stefan Edberg."

Edberg, the No. 1 seed, survived a 66-minute interruption for rain to beat Jason Stoltenberg 6-4, 6-4 and set up a third meeting with the Australian this year. Both previous matches were won by the Swede.

Cash felt he had to cope with much more severe conditions. "It was a hurricane," he said. "You've no idea how difficult it was to play out there. The conditions were impossible. But only for Woodbridge, who still seemed to be thinking about his five-set defeat by Becker in the French Open two weeks ago and made a series of elementary errors."

Cash has been more than a little reticent about his return to form in recent days. Like a man whistling to feign nonchalance, he has been trying to deflect questions about Wimbledon and sighs heavily when asked to compare this year's version with that of 1987 when he became Wimbledon champion. But he has now dropped only 13 games in three matches at Queen's this week.

"It's like putting building blocks together," he said. "Today, I did some things better than yesterday. Gradually, it's coming together."

Surprisingly for a grass-court specialist, the first signs that appeared at the French Open two weeks ago. He lost to Andrei Cherkasov on clay, his least favoured surface, but emerged after five sets with his confidence at a high in time for the grass-court season.

The final of Beckenham - not his favourite hunting ground - last week, where he lost to Ivan Lendl only after a third-set tie-break, confirmed an improvement which, for a man not blessed with the



Power thrust: Cash on his way to victory over Woodbridge in the Stella Artois tournament yesterday

## Gomer a positive defeatist

By BARRY WOOD

SARA Gomer yesterday demonstrated one of the glaring differences between British players and many of those from overseas, after she had tested the defending champion, No. 2 seed, and Wimbledon finalist, Zina Garrison, in the third round of the Dow Classic.

After her 4-6, 6-2, 6-4 defeat, Gomer admitted: "I thought I was a long way from winning. There's a big difference between being close and actually winning." Negative thoughts are a common enough factor in British tennis but if Gomer had been able to maintain the high standard of her first set, there is every chance she would have reached the quarter-finals.

She capitalised on a tentative start by Garrison - breaking her to love in the opening game - and impressed with the manner in which she fended off five break points in the next game.

It was a remarkably positive performance, in which she showed an encouraging ability to volley a respectable number of winners. But once Garrison

## Kane makes light of heavy winds to oust champion

By PATRICIA DAVIES

LORIE Kane, a Canadian with a maple leaf shaved into the side of her head, scythed into the third round of the British women's championship with a scintillating display of putting at Farnham, near Harrogate, yesterday.

In the afternoon, against Julie Hall, the defending champion, Kane, from Prince Edward Island, was three under par when the match ended on the 14th. By Hall's reckoning (and she had the best view), the Canadian had ten single putts and needed only 18 in all.

Having been six under par when she beat Julie Foster, the Welsh international, in the morning, Kane probably felt the most hideous of golfing days, blowing half a gale and often raining. Putting, someone should have told her, was fiendishly difficult.

Louise Briers, for instance, might have mentioned that the two-footers were not as easy as they should have been. Buffeted by the wind, the Australian, a finalist in 1986, missed from that distance to lose the 17th to Mary McKeena, who had herself missed from four feet. McKeena, thus relieved, was back to all square and played the last hole impeccably, hitting a perfect drive and four-iron to 25 feet for a winning par.

It is the Irishwoman's 23rd consecutive championship and she meets Kane this morning as she makes her annual attempt to reach the final for the first time.

A semi-finalist twice, she felt she was in the doldrums two winters ago and took herself off to Florida to consult David Leadbetter. "It gave me a new zest, a new way of thinking," McKeena, aged 42, said.

The jinx on the leading quali-

## Way out in front after recovering

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

PAUL Way proved he has recovered from a freak injury by taking a share of the first-round Open yesterday.

Way suffered badly bruised ribs during an impromptu karate demonstration by the PGA European Tour's martial arts expert, Peter Mitchell. He took pain-killers for a week, and is only now able to swing freely.

The European Open champion of 1987, Way, aged 28, has suffered four years in the golf wilderness since that win. But at Royal Waterloo he recorded a five-under-par 67 to share the lead with his playing partner, Paul Broadhurst.

Way, from Tonbridge, has just changed his grip on the advice of his coach, Dennis Pugh. "The club was slipping in my hand and I used to wear out a hole in my glove every round," he said. "Now I hold it more in my palm and can keep the gloves going longer."

Way, who is 44th in the European money-list, is aiming to follow the example of his former Ryder Cup partner, Severiano Ballesteros, and secure a victory over two of his place against the Americans in September.

Broadhurst, 25, is another of Britain's bright young hopes who has failed to live up to

## Moorhouse spurred

ADRIAN Moorhouse confronts Northern Roses in the 100 metres breaststroke final at Caesars, southern France, this weekend after being pushed to third place in the world for the first time in six years. Vasily Ilyanov, of the Soviet Union, matched the Hungarian's world record on Tuesday.

"I'd like to go to Athens [for the European championships in August] as top man," Moorhouse said. "I've eased off for three weeks before Caesars and I'm feeling very good. When you lose a world record, that has to be the target; it's definitely mine."

## GOLF: Sam Torrance took the first-round lead in the £30,000 Scottish Professional championship at Etna, Caesars, yesterday with a four-under-par 67, one stroke clear of Craig Maitland.

## BASKETBALL: The Chicago Bulls beat the Los Angeles Lakers 108-101 to claim their first National Basketball Association championship.

## RUGBY LEAGUE: New Zealand scored 11 tries as they defeated France 60-14 in the first Test in Auckland yesterday.

## CYCLING: Silvio Martinello, the Italian, won the eighth stage of the Italian cycling Tour in Castelfranco Veneto, Franco Chioccioli, who finished in the same time, retained the overall lead and enters the three final stages with a lead of 2min 54sec over Claudio Chiappucci. Laurent Fignon, of France, pulled out with leg pain after Wednesday's stage.

## MOTOR RACING: Peter Warr, the former director of Team Lotus, will take over as secretary of the British Racing Drivers' Club on July 1.

## ATHLETICS: The combined Harvard-Yale universities team beat and present by 12 events to eight at Birmingham in the first fixture of their quadrennial tour. The American team meets Oxford-Cambridge on Saturday.

## CRICKET: Derbyshire have switched their Refuge Assurance League match against Somerset on Sunday from Chesham, Staffordshire, to the county ground in Derby. Bob Lark, the chief executive, cleared Chesham staff but said the venue had received heavy rains.

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## Kerly denies Irish challenge

FROM SYDNEY FRISKIN IN PARIS

England played themselves into a comfortable position in the European Cup yesterday, but had to fight off a spirited challenge by Ireland before securing a 3-1 victory.

England began impressively and were well into the lead after the early minutes. The Irish defence was caught napping in the eleventh minute when Williams broke clear on the right, and though his first shot from a difficult angle came back off the goalkeeper, his second attempt was stopped illegally by Martin, who conceded a penalty stroke. Potter made no mistake from the spot. Eight minutes later, Williams was in high gear again to earn England their first shot corner, which Kerly converted, opting for a gentle push rather than a hit.

In contrast, a sudden surge by the Irish brought them a short corner from which they had a luck. Cooke's shot was saved by Rowlands and Johnson misfired on the follow-up.

Ireland revived their spirits within six minutes of the start of the second half, when Cooke converted a short corner with a strong hit. Yet Burns, once Ireland's best forwards, was soon removed from the scene after being injured, leaving Ireland in slight disarray.

Their efforts to regain ground were thwarted by a solid England defence, in which Potter and Faulkner were outstanding. The final drama was provided by Mayer, a substitute for Williams, who, after exchanging passes within seconds of his arrival, set up a chance for Kerly to make England's position safe.

## SPORT FOR THE DISABLED

## Ripley on target in tense finale

By JANE WYATT

IN A dramatic finish to the women's air rifle competition at the National Wheelchair Games in Stoke Mandeville, Denise Coster was ousted from her position as British women's champion by one point in the standing event by Dorothy Ripley, 365-364 (Jane Wyatt writes).

The two women continued their short-but-hot contest in the prone event to end with equal scores of 390. Stephanie Parkes again took the bronze.

In the wheelchair, Anthony Peddle, of Northampton, continued to show excellent form, taking the gold in the up to 48-kilogrammes division, with a lift of 145kg, beating his own games record of 137kg.

Other games records fell to Jim Jameson, in the 52-56kg division, with a lift of 130kg, and in the women's 48-52kg division, where Nicola Libby lifted 55kg.

## BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Oakland A's 3, Detroit Tigers 1. Seattle Mariners 5, Boston Red Sox 2. Milwaukee Brewers 8, California Angels 4. Toronto Blue Jays 9, New York Yankees 2. Tampa Bay Devil Rays 1, Minnesota Twins 0. St. Louis Cardinals 10, Houston Astros 5. Pittsburgh Pirates 2, Los Angeles Dodgers 1. Atlanta Braves 6, New York Mets 1. Houston Astros 10, St. Louis Cardinals 2. San Diego Padres 7, St. Louis Cardinals 2.

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## Mistake preserves Thompson record

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

ANY threat that Dan O'Brien might have posed to Daley Thompson's decade-old world record in the United States national championships disappeared on the first day because of the absence of a wind-gauge for the 100 metres. O'Brien achieved the best first-day score ever, but went into the second day unable to challenge Thompson's record, set in 1984, because of confusion between sponsors who each thought the other was supplying the gauge.

O'Brien's 4.747 points compared with Thompson's first-day 4.677, which he set on his second day, but he was in contention for the first time in 25 years, but the high jump and long jump areas at Downing Stadium were not ready.

In addition, Butch Reynolds, the suspended 400-metre world champion, said that he would run in the championships, despite attempts by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) to stop him.

"I'm running," Reynolds said. "If I run 60 seconds, I'm running." Reynolds, whose world record is 43.29sec, was due to run in a 400-metre preliminary heat last night, even though the IAAF had said on Wednesday that it had instructed American athletics authorities not to allow Reynolds to run.

Reynolds was banned for two years by the IAAF in November after testing positive for anabolic steroids at a meeting in Monte Carlo. However, the American Arbitration Association announced on Monday it had temporarily lifted the ban to enable Reynolds to compete in the US championships. A United States Olympic Committee (USOC) spokesman said Reynolds would be eligible for the Pan-American Games in Havana in August if he ran well at the championships.

Ben Johnson, who has been commanding vast appearance fees since his return to competition after suspension for drug-taking, is to run for five in Toronto, Norway, tomorrow, but on condition that he does not have to meet the press. In Limerick tonight, two of the British European Cup team announced on Tuesday, Paul Edwards (shot) and Paul Hignett (hammer), leave England against the Soviet Union and Ireland.

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## Dickson sets the pace

semi-final (Barry Pickthall writes).

TWO rival New Zealand skippers, Chris Dickson, who is unbeaten, and Russell Coutts, lead the French Kourou Cup match race championship, leaving Eddie Warden Owen, of Britain, fighting in fifth place to make the cut and tomorrow's

## FOOTBALL

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# Problems remain over S Africa's re-admission



Ramsamy: still problems

By DAVID MILLER

THE International Olympic Committee (IOC) session yesterday accepted the report of the delegation that visited South Africa two months ago, and recommended conditional re-admission to the Olympic movement. It is, however, by no means certain that South Africa will take part in either the Olympic Games in Albertville or Barcelona next year.

Although the South African government is committed to the abolition, by the end of this month, of the last remaining apartheid act, Population

Registration, there is still much left to be fulfilled in the other four conditions that were fundamental to the terms given by the delegation headed by the former judge, Keba M'Baye, of Senegal. For a start, South Africa still does not have an official Olympic committee.

On July 9, the Interim National Olympic Committee of South Africa (Inocsa) will have a meeting with the IOC in Lausanne, and although on the surface, relationships between the different bodies comprising Inocsa appear stable, there is much resistance to

a hasty return to international sport from the South African Council on Sport (Sacos). The position of Sacos has always been overtly political, primarily representing the Asian more than the black population, and these differences on some of the basic issues of South Africa's reintegration remain unresolved.

Neither M'Baye nor Sam Ramsamy, the former radical activist working for South Africa's exclusion and now a leading figure within Inocsa, were yesterday identifying the Sacos problem, but this undoubtedly stands between

South Africa and a quick return.

I think it must be unlikely at this stage, in spite of all the activity by the International Amateur Athletic Federation after the IOC's initiative, that there will be athletes from South Africa taking part in the world championships in Tokyo in August. Harry Hendricks, the chairman of the Sacos athletics federation, is reluctant to agree to the present terms of a unified athletics body.

Besides the abolition of the apartheid laws, the IOC delegation's conditions are:

the formation of an Olympic committee; the creation of a unified national federation; the re-establishment of relations with individual African and world governing bodies; and the uniform availability of facilities.

The formation and acceptance of a National Olympic Committee requires that at least five national sports federations have international affiliation. A unified national body has so far effectively been achieved in football, will be established tomorrow in basketball, next month in boxing, and is near to fulfil-

ment in table tennis. If the athletics situation could be resolved then there would be the minimum five.

Until these things have happened it will not be possible for the IOC to issue an invitation to Barcelona in July, though it is agreed that the invitation may be sent at any stage when the conditions have been fulfilled.

There are 15 South African national Olympic federations that do not have a conflict of various racial counterparts; in other words there exists only the original white body. These will not be accepted into

Inocsa, or a new Olympic body, until they have established the non-racial unified principles, regarding membership and facilities, that are essential in those sports where there has to be an amalgamation of different governing bodies.

At a press conference yesterday Keba M'Baye said: "Unification at the moment is on course. We will present the executive board with more detailed proposals following the meeting on July 9, but it would be premature at the moment to say what those proposals might be."

## Maxwell ready to join bidding for Tottenham

By DENNIS SIGNY AND MARTIN BARROW

THE nine-month fight for Tottenham Hotspur could end today. Robert Maxwell is expected to announce the sale of Derby County and his intention to purchase the north London club and its holding company, which is £20 million in debt.

The likely outcome of a Maxwell takeover of Tottenham would be the retention of Irving Scholar as chairman of the football club and the departure of Terry Venables, whose contract as manager expired at the end of May. Maxwell would also try to stop the sale of Paul Gascoigne to Lazio, of Rome, for £4.5 million.

A formidable obstacle to the publisher's ambition to control Tottenham should be removed today with the sale, for £5 million, of his 76 per cent interest in Derby to a consortium headed by Peter Gadsby, a property developer, and a group of the present directors, which is led by Brian Fearn.

The formalities of a deal were being completed last night by the merchant bankers, Hill Samuel. Fearn would be Derby's new chairman, with Gadsby given the vice-

chairmanship as well as a guarantee of taking control of the club in the future.

The Fearn-Gadsby link is regarded as not only in the best interests of Derby, but is also convenient for Maxwell, who has stepped up his efforts to sell the club in the last two weeks so he could make his move for Tottenham. Football League regulations forbid a person having a controlling interest in more than one club.

In spite of Maxwell's probable bid, the Tottenham board was continuing talks with advisers to Alan Sugar, the Amstrad chairman, who is backing the proposals of Terry Venables, the manager, for the refinancing of the club. Sources close to Tottenham played down suggestions that Sugar and Venables would step aside if Maxwell made an offer. Sugar is believed to have made progress in negotiations with Irving Scholar and Paul Bobroff, who together own 37 per cent of the shares.

However, Scholar, the major shareholder, with a 26 per cent holding, favours Maxwell rather than Venables and Sugar. Last season, Maxwell loaned £1.1 million through one of his companies to a

company of Scholar's to help ease Tottenham's problems.

Tottenham may today announce the appointment of a new director. The name of David Butler, an insolvency expert, was mentioned in conjunction with the appointment last night.

It would be the first step towards satisfying one of the conditions of the Midland Bank, which is owed £11 million by Tottenham — namely the strengthening of its main board — for extending the football club's overdraft facilities for a year.

Ian Gray, the current chief executive, will remain as a director with an operational role. At present, Nat Solomon, the chairman, is the only other executive member of the board.

Maxwell's move for Tottenham comes as no surprise; he had been linked with the club since as long ago as last September. However, he had seemed in no special hurry to sell Derby, who went on the market with an £8 million price tag last September, until he suddenly imposed a deadline for bids.

That flushed out four contenders. In addition to Gadsby and Fearn, there was interest from a Sheffield consortium, probably led by Reg Brealey, the former Sheffield United chairman, and a London group represented by John Gregory, a former Derby and England midfielder player.

With none prepared to go above £4 million, Hill Samuel proposed a merger between the two Derby-based bidders. The price of £5 million represents a considerable profit to Maxwell, who spent £850,000 to rescue Derby from closure in 1984 and has since loaned the club a further £800,000.

It is believed that about £3 million of the Derby take-over price will have to be financed from the sale of Mark Wright, the England defender, and Dean Saunders, the Wales forward, who are together valued at £6 million. That would leave about £3 million available for Arthur Cox, the manager, to begin rebuilding a side recently relegated from the first division.

## Storm halts Faldo's recovery

FROM MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT  
CHASKA, MINNESOTA

A HEAVY thunderstorm interrupted a wonderful recovery by Nick Faldo in the US Open on the Hazeltine course here yesterday. The course was drenched as a dramatic electric storm broke overhead causing 50,000 spectators to seek cover and safety from forked lightning.

Only minutes before play was suspended, Faldo had made three birdies in four holes from the 11th to get to one under par.

He had set out in hot sunshine with the course having been softened following a heavy thunderstorm which ended two hours before play began. There was a light breeze, although a stronger one would have been welcomed because of the oppressive conditions.

From the start Faldo seemed to lack his normal authority. He pulled his first tee shot into a bunker and from there narrowly missed the green on the left. A good pitch to two feet enabled him to save par, as did Phil

the fifth and he left himself with a shot of more than 200 yards to the green. He struck the approach well, although the putt from 28 feet for a birdie missed.

Irwin, the defending champion, returned to level par with a birdie from 14 feet at the 6th, where Faldo did well to two putts from fully 50 feet, and he made another birdie at the seventh with a lovely chip to three feet. Mickelson went into the trees, chipped out, hit his third to 16 feet from where he nonchalantly holed for an unlikely birdie. Faldo reached the green in two, but he needed three putts to cover the length of a cricket pitch.

Faldo, out in 37, dropped another at the 10th, at which point he seemed to decide it was time to get his act together. He did, too, with a birdie at the 11th, a two at the 13th and another at the 14th shortly before there was an ominous rumble of thunder. One flash of lightning and the United States Golf Association wasted little time in suspending play at 12.45pm local time.

Billy Andrade, who has won the last two events on the US Tour, was the first player to suggest that the course, regarded by Tom Watson as the best he has played at a US Open, could be conquered. He had five birdies in six holes from the third, but he met his Waterloo at the 11th. There he hit into an unplayable lie, dropped and found a bunker with his next. He eventually lipped out from five feet and took eight. Andrade shrugged his shoulders and smiled.

Ronan Rafferty, out in 39, looked less than happy, although alongside him Craig Parry, of Australia, and Corey Pavin were both enjoying themselves. Parry, who won the Italian Open in May, was out in 34 to Pavin's 35. They both featured on the leaderboard at that stage, as did Irwin, who, with a birdie at the 14th, joined Faldo among others at one under par.

José María Olazábal, of Spain, went to the turn in 37. He had a birdie on the 10th but dropped shots at the 11th and 14th before to the suspension.

John Laman momentarily took over as leader when he had a hole in one at the 4th.

EARLY SCORES (US unless stated): 72: S. Gensche, 72: S. Uley, 75: J. Hough, R. Weicker, 77: R. Lusk, E. Johnson, S. Terry, 78: J. Stuart, S. Sherry, 80: J. Deane, 83: T. O'Leary, L. Garcia, 81: C. Deane, 82: G. Davis.



Champion in trouble: Irwin plays out of a bunker on the 1st at Hazeltine yesterday

## Golfers oppose television replay

DALLAS (AP) — Preferring to call penalties on themselves, several golfers are opposing the use of instant television replay by the United States Golf Association (USGA).

"I guess we don't have much of a vote in it," Andrew Magee said after USGA officials announced that concern about two recent television

rulings on the PGA Tour will prompt them to monitor coverage of the US Open.

The USGA said it would resort to instant replay if needed. The 91st US Open began yesterday at Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska, Minnesota.

The decision by the PGA Tour's policy board to dis-

continue instant replay will not apply to the US Open, because it is a USGA event. Tom Meeks, the USGA director of rules and competitions, said, adding that the USGA also will have an official accompany each group of players for the first time since 1976, paying particular attention to slow play.

## Super league is not on agenda

THE looming spectre of the Football Association's attempt to "capture" the top 18 clubs and form its own super league is unlikely to affect the routine business of the Football League's annual meeting in London today.

No mention of the controversial Premier League proposal appears on the agenda — and it promises to be the quietest annual meeting for years. Ian Cotton, the League spokesman, said: "There is sufficient normal AGM business to discuss without bringing in the FA's proposals. It is a separate issue

that needs to be addressed and that will happen at two other meetings next week when the so-called super league plan will be discussed specifically."

The 93 League clubs will concern themselves with voting on minor alterations to League regulations and other routine matters such as floodlighting improvements, sizes of pitches, and pay rises for officials as well as bowing to police pressure for no more than one replay in Rumbelows Cup matches next season.

The Management Committee are proposing penalty shoot-outs to decide all ties.

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## Patrese is unconcerned by Mexican altitude worries

FROM NORMAN HOWELL IN MEXICO CITY

FORMULA One motor racing has arrived in Mexico City, the sprawling capital of a country which does not have much in common with the glitz associated with the sport. Nearly 8,000 feet above sea level, whatever air is left after the pollution has taken its toll is thinner and affects both drivers and engines.

Most teams have come here early to acclimatise themselves and the engines to the unusual circumstances they will face at the Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez. Riccardo Patrese, however, thinks too much is made of the altitude factor.

"Yes, there are slight adjustments to be made. Maybe there is some power loss, too," he said. "But it's the same for everybody and, with the incredible electronic facilities

the engineers have, anything can be compensated for."

The main difficulty at the track will be negotiating the very fast banked 180-degree Peraltada bend, just before the pits straight. "You have to have strong nerves for that corner," Stefano Modena said. Modena will be hoping to drive around it safely in his Tyrrell-Honda for the required 69 laps and confirm the excellent result he had in Montreal less than two weeks ago when he finished second to Nelson Piquet.

Yet, he must be bothered by the fact that Harvey Postlethwaite, Tyrrell's brilliant designer, has left for the Sauber Mercedes world sportscar championship team. It will harm Tyrrell's chances of breaking into the top of the league.

One thing Nigel Mansell has strong nerves. He will be enjoying the chance to once more take on the McLarens and hope that his gearbox holds out until the end.

There has been much debate over whether he should have pushed as hard as he did during the closing stages in Canada. He led by a minute until his gearbox failed and he spluttered to a halt on the final lap.

Patrese thinks Mansell may have been a little imprudent, while Renault, the French engine manufacturer which supplies the Williams team, has cleared him from blame.

Yet it seems the problem may lie partly in Mansell's driving style. Now that he is using the semi-automatic gearbox, he does not "blip" the throttle as he changes down — something drivers do to ease the gear-change.

According to sources at Renault, had he done that, he might have managed to keep the revs up and avoided the engine stalling.

## More respect would lighten Taylor's load as manager

FROM STUART JONES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT, KUALA LUMPUR

BEFORE returning home yesterday, Graham Taylor spoke of oppressive heat. He was not necessarily referring to the conditions in which the England football tour finished here, but to the way in which the England manager has been treated. That has been the most surprising feature of his first season in charge.

Taylor feels that he and his predecessors have not been held in the esteem the role deserves. In spite of setting a record by remaining undefeated in his first dozen internationals, he claims that he is still a victim of criticism which is unjustifiably harsh.

"Irrespective of whom the incumbent is, the England manager does not command enough respect," he said after the 4-2 win in Malaysia. "I think the position is kicked around too much and it is allowed to be kicked about. Until you are in the job, you don't realise how little status it holds."

In view of his belief, which echoes that of Bobby Robson,

it is not surprising that he was reluctant to embark on a tour that represented a potentially hazardous journey, since the games against Australia, New Zealand, twice, and Malaysia, were regarded as full internationals. He was aware of the consequences had his team been beaten.

"I don't see why we should take unnecessary risks, especially when we don't know who will be available. If Crystal Palace and Nottingham Forest had not released their nine players, I think we would have lost one of these matches. There was pressure on us to win."

"If we had lost, we would have had to live with it for the rest of our careers." That fate, though, was avoided. The unbeaten sequence was maintained and he found a couple of newcomers on whom he can rely.

Although Salako benefited from opponents who were defensively naive, the Crystal Palace winger is now among those competing for the place

held principally by Barnes. Charles, though, is potentially the greater discovery in the long-term because he has fewer rivals in his position as the understudy to Dixon and Stevens at right back.

Batty, Clough and especially Thomas, who was one of five to have started in each of the tour games, are genuine challengers for the six or seven places which, Taylor says, are still open in the party for the qualifying stages of the 1994 World Cup. The nucleus has already been established.

Never again, at least not while Taylor is the national manager, will promising young players be asked to stake their claims in conditions ranging from Arctic to tropical. He has already recommended to the Football Association's international committee that England should, in future, visit the country which is about to stage the next World Cup.

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